

## Quintessence Breastfeeding Challenge was a success



ORANJESTAD - On Saturday, October 3rd, countries from around the world participated at the globally synchronized Quintessence Breastfeeding Challenge.

In Aruba this event was organized for the first time by Fundacion Pro Lechi di mama at the Paseo Herencia. Each year, during 40 weeks, of the year, Pro lechi di mama,



like other countries around the world celebrates the World Breastfeeding week. This year Fundacion Pro Lechi di Mama wanted to do something different, to conscientize that breastfeeding is something normal in the Aruban community, and decided to participate for the first time at the Quintessence Foundation Breastfeeding Challenge. The Quintessence Breastfeeding Challenge focused on the importance of breastfeeding, to improve the health of a child and to conscientize and educate the whole community on how and why breastfeeding is so important.

The pictures show the mothers and their babies who participated at the



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## 'Credible tips' coming in from those who saw missing US diplomat in Curacao

"Credible tips" are coming in from an anonymous tip line set up by Curacao police requesting information about the missing U.S. diplomat James Hogan, according to Curacao police spokesman Reggie Huggins.

He commented, "We have talked to quite a lot of people that one way or another have helped." Several people have reported seeing him around the time he vanished. No further details were released.



The 49-year-old Hogan left his home last week for a midnight walk in his neighborhood.

He and his wife lived in what is known as a "peaceful neighborhood" outside Curacao's capital, Willemstad, inhabited by wealthy business owners and members of the diplomatic corps.

A portion of Baya Beach, where clothes were found that DNA testing has since proven are Hogan's, has been closed to fishermen and tourists, in order that any remaining evidence may be found.

Baya Beach is frequented by tourists by day for participating in fishing excursions, scuba diving, and partyboat excursions, and, after dark, for its active nightlife. □

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Bahamas surrenders bodybuilding title

# The 2010 bodybuilding championships will be held in Aruba



ST. GEORGE'S, GRENADA - The Bahamas' 12-member team will be returning home from St George's, Grenada, without the coveted 37th Central American and Caribbean Bodybuilding and Fitness Championships title. After dominating the championships for the past three years, the Bahamas relinquished the title twice on Saturday night to Barbados, who carted off the overall title with 208 points. Barbados had a double dose of celebrations as they were also awarded the 2008 title over the Bahamas and Venezuela, who was second. A statistical error reversed the overall decision from the 2008 championships that was held here when the Bahamas was crowned the champions for the third straight year. At this year's championships over the weekend, the Bahamas ended up in third place with 115 behind Trinidad & Tobago, who accumulated 137. Bahamas Bodybuilding and Fitness Federation president Danny Sumner, team manager Derrick Bullard, nor coach Wellington 'Cat' Sears could be reached for comments up to press time last night. James 'Jay' Darling, the national champion, turned

in the best performance for the Bahamas as he clinched the team's only two gold medals. He struck twice in the men's masters and the middleweight divisions. The overall male champion was Martinus Durrant of Barbados, who earned his professional card in the process. The female winner was Candice Carr-Archer of Trinidad & Tobago. She captured the masters category. Barbados also celebrated as Renee Cobham was crowned the Miss Fitness CAC champion. Her compatriot Nicole Carter finished second. And both Jamilia Sokunbi and Ramona Morgan took the women's fitness titles. In winning this year's title by 50 points, Barbados took six divisional titles, five second places and four third places. Other divisional winners were bantamweight Hemradj Mulai of Aruba, lightweight Diego Salinas of El Salvador, lightweight Ross Caesar of Bermuda; heavyweight Juan Carlos Bega of Puerto Rico and super heavyweight Philip Clahar of Jamaica. This year's championships attracted about 250 bodybuilders from 19 countries. Grenada's Vaughn Francis, who won the CAC title two years ago along with Dennis James, a fourth place finisher in the prestigious Mr Olympia competition, were guest posers. The 2010 championships will be held in Aruba. □

## Extensive investigation is underway at GEBE

PHILIPSBURG--The Daily Herald has learned that an extensive investigation into the operations, finances and other areas of utility company GEBE is currently underway.

Commissioner Theo Heyliger, on the floor of the Island Council last Friday, briefly and broadly mentioned "a number of investigations" taking place at GEBE. After probing into what the Commissioner was referring to, information came to light regarding a new investigation that started last week.

This investigation was requested by GEBE's supervisory board and is being conducted by investigators from Curaçao. Who exactly those investigators are could not be ascertained by press time.

It was made clear, however, that the board had requested investigations into the actions of Managing Director William Brooks, the handling

of company finances and the operational actions of some department managers, among other things. Specifically mentioned was the debt ratio for the loan from Pacific Life not being met and unexplained high expenditures.

The scope of the investigation was described as wide and far-reaching. Information reaching The Daily Herald also indicated that the Commissioner and the supervisory board had been discussing GEBE's ongoing impasse with Brooks behind the scenes, having met once on the subject recently and probably more times in the past.

GEBE's supervisory board recently did not approve the company's 2008 financial statement, citing a lack of information and questions that had to be answered by the Managing Director.

The board will not approve any financial statement if it does not have accurate and detailed information. □

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# Premiere of Rudi Stone at Mr. Jazz on Wednesday



PASEO HERENCIA - Rudi Stone, the Aruban singer who has just returned to Aruba after an international career of 33 years, will perform for the first time at Mr. Jazz this Wednesday at 8:00PM together with the quartet of Delbert Bernabella.

Every Wednesday evening as of October 7 Rudi and other artists will perform all the best known Boleros and Ballads on Romance Night. All couples will receive a free glass of champagne and a beautiful Rose. Especially for locals the price will be in Aruban

Florins instead of Dollars on Romance Night. This means a 40% discount for locals. Rudi is a real Aruban singer who won various song festivals in the 70's.

Later he finished his education in the USA followed by 8 years in Panama. There he was a well-known songwriter for Radio and TV jingles. He also launched the band "Furia" that released the hits "Tu y Yo" (You and I) and "Usa y Abusa" (Uses and Abuses).

In 1990 he moved to Holland where he worked for PolyGram Records. In 2001 he became CEO of Holiday on Ice Worldwide where he grew this show in all parts of the world. This year he produced two videos on YouTube: "InAruba1" by Rudi Stone, which is a promotional song for Aruba, and "Sensation of Love". Come and take



advantage to try our delicious cuisine and listen to the sounds of Rudi Stone at Mr. Jazz; doors open at 6:30PM. □

*End of the tax haven vacation*

## Offshore regimes have been forced to share client data

From Aruba to the British Virgin Islands, offshore centres have long been favoured by those wishing to hide their assets. However, in the throes of the financial crisis, world leaders looked for others to share the blame and demanded such centres give up many of the features that attracted assets there in the first place.

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development demanded each offshore centre communicate tax information relating to assets held under its jurisdiction with as many other countries as possible and a spotlight was shone on the rules enforced by their regulatory bodies. City of London minister Lord Myners told Financial News last week that offshore centres would become significantly less important. He said many of the assets they housed would head back onshore and he wanted the UK to pick up most of them.

However, Derek Adler, director at Ifina, a fund administrator working in the British Virgin Islands, said this was unlikely. He said: "Offshore centres have been bending over backwards to comply with the new rules put in place by international regulators. Conditions in the UK would have to change dramatically as they are currently far too restrictive for many investors to consider returning."

Marc Seimetz, partner at law firm Dechert in Luxembourg, said the country would be among those that would pick up the most business if investors pulled back from non-European Union offshore centres.

Seimetz said: "Luxembourg is the second-largest fund market behind the US. It was quick to implement Ucits and create a working environment in which it could operate, this structure has also become increasingly popular with hedge fund managers."

Luxembourg

A sure-fire way to upset a Luxembourger is to class their land-locked home state as "offshore", despite it being exactly that. Luxembourg is the second-largest fund domicile in the world by assets under management, after the US. With a population of under half a million, it is home to €1.7 trillion (\$2.5 trillion) in assets.

Claude Kremer, chairman of the Association of the Luxembourg Fund Industry, said: "We do not consider ourselves offshore. We are regulated within the European Union, whereas other financial centres have their own set of rules." Luxembourg was the first country in the EU to put Ucits, the undertakings for collective investment in transferable securities directive, into practice in 1988. Its push into the fund domicile and administration sectors before other member states soon collected business from those lagging behind.

Over the past 20 years, funds from as far away as Asia and Latin America have been based in the tiny nation, along with several thousand from Europe and the US. The nation is trying to steal a march on other offshore centres. In 2007 it launched specialised investment funds, aimed at alternative asset managers that may currently base funds further afield. □

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California wines play starring roles at Arion

# Wine Company's seminar for EPI students and their family



ORANJESTAD - California wines played starring roles at the special seminar that wine expert Govert van der Hout taught at the EPI school last Sunday afternoon. Students and their family listened intently, soaking up information, as they tasted and discussed three white wines and three reds. A Wine Aroma Wheel helped them define the specific aromas and flavors of the different wines. The Arion Wine Company seminar formed part of the Chef & Student Culinary Festival in which students are teamed up with professional chefs. Together they had to present an appetizer, an entrée and a dessert in an effort to win the title Culinary Team of Aruba.

The white wines tasted were a Kendall Jackson Sauvignon Blanc Vintner's Reserve, a Tamás Estates Pinot Grigio Monterey and a Ravenswood

Chardonnay-Sonoma County. The red wines were a Kendall Jackson Pinot Noir Vintner's Reserve, a Ravenswood

Vintners Blend Zinfandel - Sonoma County and a Wente Vineyards Southern Hills Cabernet Sauvignon, Livermore Valley.

The 35 participants at the seminar discussed the merits, flavors and subtle aromas of the various wines under the spirited guidance of Mr. Van der Hout, who guided them in this voyage of the senses.

The Chef & Student Culinary Festival took place from October 1 - 4. The Arion Wine Company was one of the sponsor of the happening.



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*Volcanic activity and earthquakes hit Caribbean islands*

# Volcano on Montserrat begins to shoot ash as 4.5 magnitude quake rattles St Maarten



Smoke and ash billow from the Soufriere Hills volcano on Montserrat in 1997. Photograph: Kevin West/AP

PHILLIPSBURG - The volcano on the Caribbean island of Montserrat shot a plume of ash more than two miles into the sky today, lightly dusting the small island. The venting by the Soufriere Hills volcano has been accompanied by more than 30 tiny earthquakes since last night, according to Paul Cole, director of the Montserrat Volcano Observatory. He said it was the volcano's first sign of activity in 10 months.

"It's just a reminder that the volcano is still active," said James White Jr, acting director of the island's disaster management coordination agency. "It isn't something for us to panic over." Ash released in several bursts from the volcano passed south of Old Town and Olveston, leaving only a light coating in the island's inhabited areas. But the observatory said more ash could fall depending on the wind direction.

Soufriere Hills became active in 1995 and killed 19 people when it erupted two years later, burying much of the British territory and prompting half its 12,000 inhabitants to leave. Meanwhile, a moderate earthquake rattled St Maarten and nearby Caribbean islands today, sending hundreds of jarred islanders and tourists running out of buildings.

There were no immediate reports of injuries or damage from the magnitude 4.5 quake. It struck at a depth of 22 miles and the epicentre was located east of St Maarten, which shares a tiny island with the French territory of St Martin. The US Geological Survey said the temblor hit today around 12.30pm US eastern time (15.30 BST). It was also

felt on the Caribbean islands of Anguilla, St Barts, St Kitts and St Eustatius. Jackie Joseph, a resident of the densely populated St Peters district of St Maarten, said schoolchildren ran screaming out of classrooms.

The quake also drove scores of frightened people into the streets in the islands' business districts. □

## \*\*\* Human Hints Daily \*\*\*

*Emotions Organize the Hologram's Energy*

Einstein proved that Energy equals Mass times the square of the speed of light. Wait! Don't stop reading yet! There is an important point soon to come. The square of the speed of light is just a constant number, it is a distortion factor that does not change. Light, the constant distortion factor, acts on energy to create mass, the three-dimensional hologram.

Light can't transform random energy, it can only create mass from organized energy. This is where our consciousness comes in and organizes the random energy, then visible light distorts it to make it real. This is how we generate the three dimensional hologram in which we live.

We organize energy based on our emotions, thoughts, patterns, actions. We create based on what we're most aware of. Whatever we focus on, we can manifest. When we focus on a goal or desire, we organize our energy and shine light on it to make it real. The world is a reflection of ourselves in visible light. Change your thoughts, emotions, patterns and actions, and you'll transform your World.

Although we create our lives, it is important to remember that our creation is not the only energy we will encounter. While it is important to take responsibility for every aspect of your self, sometimes things happen beyond our control. In these moments, remember that it's not what happens to you, it's how you react to what happens to you that defines you. Given the same event, some people react in vengeance while others act in forgiveness. Only you decide who you are when it really matters.

The physics of manifestation doesn't matter. The mechanics of how we create our reality is not important. The fact that a concept has been proven mathematically and accepted by formal science helps us believe it emotionally. Logical

knowledge can be a step toward emotional knowing, although it is not necessary to understand something intellectually in order to feel it.

When we believe something emotionally, we organize energy and shine a light on it to create our Hologram. When we understand something logically, we agree with the linear progression of "if, then, therefore". When we understand something on an emotional level, it becomes real in our hologram.

Pay attention to your emotions throughout the day, because moment by moment, they define your hologram. Emotionally feel that you've achieved your goals, then take directed action and in Time, they will appear before you.

Until Tomorrow...

Go to [www.HumanHints.com](http://www.HumanHints.com) to sign up to receive this column in your email each day.

~Quentin Danziger

Quentin has over 20 years experience balancing what we refer to as the Real World, with science and spirit. He has held positions of responsibility and authority, received a Bachelor of Science in Engineering Physics from Colorado School of Mines, and has also studied many avenues of alternative thought.

HumanHints is the culmination of his knowledge, experience and practice. These free daily emails detail concrete, real-world techniques to consciously create any future you choose, while in the throes of daily life created by outdated modes of thought.

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## Experience Papillon's gripping story! Introducing a catching special for the early Birds

PALM BEACH – Henri Charrière, one of the world's most famous prisoners, would surely have had the time of his life at Papillon Restaurant in The Village, across from the Radisson Resort. Nicknamed Papillon because of the butterfly tattoo on his chest, the Frenchman was the first convict to escape from Devil's Island, something that nobody had ever done before. Charrière's thrilling, gripping...

auto-biography has been the concept behind Papillon Restaurant. The décor, the decorations and especially the restrooms wink at the thirteen terrible years Papillon spent in prison in French Guyana. Papillon restaurant's menu reflects the Frenchman's arduous journey to freedom: classic French dishes have been dusted with daring Caribbean flair and are a culinary journey for your taste buds. The spacious outside terrace is perfect for casual fine dining; the iron bars, flecks of rust and stains on the walls make one very glad not to be in Papillon's shoes in the 1940's! Charrière would undoubtedly have loved 'his' place on Aruba: this is luxury living for anyone!

### Early Bird

Papillon Restaurant offers a daily Early Bird special. A delicious 3-course meal with a glass of house wine for just \$29.75 per person between 5pm and 7pm

### Opening hours

Papillon's opening hours are from 5 pm until midnight. The restaurant's daily specials will be explained by the staff. For reservations, please call 586 5400 or go to [www.papillonaruba.com](http://www.papillonaruba.com).

Papillon Restaurant is located in The Village, just across from the Radisson Resort.



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day with the Discover Scuba Dive Course, get PADI certified or join us on our daily one and two tank dives. Red Sail Sports is Aruba's leading dive and watersports operator. Activity desks are located at the Hyatt Regency, Marriott Resorts and on Renaissance Island.

To make reservations call **586-1603** or go to **www.redsail-aruba.com**. Be sure to visit one of Red Sail Sports' stores for the latest in swimwear, beach essentials, T-shirts and souvenirs.



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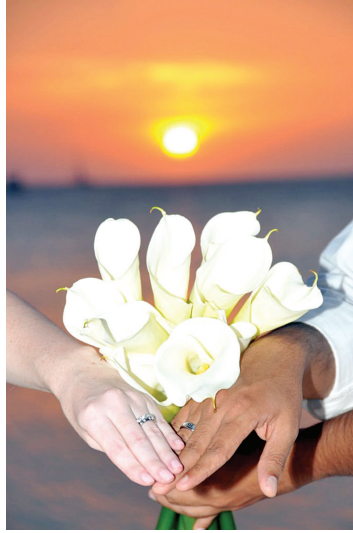
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# Stavroula & Subhav celebrate love with marriage



PALM BEACH – On October 2, 2009, Stavroula & Subhav Patel pledged their love to one another with the exchange of rings and vows with their toes in the sand on the beach at the Aruba Marriott Resort and Stellaris Casino.



The ceremony was creatively orchestrated by the Aruba Marriott Wedding Coordinator Desiree Bikker and the events staff. Rev. John Wardlaw officiated the ceremony as Stavroula and Subhav celebrated with a champagne toast and official cake cutting ceremony just as the sun set into the Caribbean Sea. □  
~ Photos by Julia Renfro ~





# Sunset Grille, a prime Steakhouse offering Spa Cuisine



Palm Beach – The Sunset Grille at the Radisson Aruba Resort Casino & Spa needs no introduction. The award winning American steakhouse with its chic, cosmopolitan atmosphere headlines Prime Beef, the highest grade U.S.D.A -- only 2% of all beef is graded prime, required to age a minimum of 4 weeks. While steaks and chops make up the heart of the menu, the resort's Restaurant Chef Maarten Smeets innovated

unparalleled appetizers and extraordinary desserts, which helped the Sunset Grille achieve the Triple AAA's elite four-diamond status – a rare feat for steakhouses. Sunset Grille well-known as the number one steakhouse in Aruba offers also spa cuisine, for the health conscious visitors, featuring appetizers, salads and a wide array of seafood selections. The spa cuisine dishes are balanced by enhancing

flavors with citrus, spice and herbs and taste is elevated by marinating, smoking and grilling, Smeets explains. "We now use many more herbs, vegetables, grains and fibers," he adds, "all designed to sustain a healthier life style; and we stay away from saturated fats and refined sugars, as well as use salt sparingly," he informs. "The Sunset Grille kitchen," Smeets reveals, "uses no trans fats, and our guests," he banter, "stay healthy, wealthy and wise with our new and exciting spa cuisine." Among the patrons favorite dishes are, the Sunset Grille's famous Chop House Martini Salad, "Shaken not Stirred;" the lobster bisque with a pastry crust, the various cuts of prime beef, the popular Rack of Lamb, Stuffed Quail and the delicious Veal Oscar. The spa cuisine features items such as Tuna Tataki, the Spinach Salad, Chilean Seabass, grilled Swordfish and the Asian style Salmon



to cut corners, especially when it comes to buying, aging and cutting meat. No wonder the readers of Caribbean Travel & Life named it the top restaurant in the Caribbean. □



and Scallops served with the popular Soba Noodles. The Sunset Grille always endeavors to exceed guests' expectations by purchasing the very best products available and preparing them in accordance with a combination of "tried and true" as well as cutting edge contemporary methods, Smeets explains. Simply put, the Sunset Grille culinary team buys the best products, and cooks them the best way they know, refusing

## T.H. Palm & Company offers an exceptional, upscale shopping experience



T.H. Palm & Company offers an exceptional, upscale shopping experience for

"Fun Island Living". Owned by Irwin Hagedoorn & Jodi Tobman, who have several other boutiques on the island, the couple had a lot of fun creating this magnificent jewel of a store which opened its doors in June of 2004.

A wide variety of distinctive items from luscious silk tropical shirts for men, stylish resort wear for women and exclusive artisan jewelry are all elegantly displayed making use of many antique pieces. The theme of "Fun Island Living" is apparent in the wide selection of accessories for the home including tropical

barware and serving pieces, artwork and lamps. There are handbags "to live for" and an array of gifts for children of all ages as well as a variety of novelty gift items for pets. When visiting T.H. Palm & Company, we suggest you take your time as you will need to browse from the floor to the ceiling in order not to miss a

thing. A selection of larger items can be shipped to your home address at a nominal fee and shipping is always available. For those who just cannot choose amongst all the enchanting objects available or who do not have time to shop, a Personal Shopper service is available to assist at no extra

charge by appointment. T.H. Palm & Company is conveniently located in front of the Playa Linda Beach Resort and offers late night shopping and convenient parking. Open daily from 9 am - 10 pm, Fridays open until 11 pm. Telephone 586-8909 Email [orders@salamanderholdings.com](mailto:orders@salamanderholdings.com) □





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# Record attendance at Sports Fishing tournament



The 15th annual sports fishing tournament hosted by the Nevis Yacht club attracted record participation and a record attendance during the closing ceremony. A tournament high 28 boats competed this year with some countries being represented by the highest number of boats ever.

During the closing ceremony, all of the participating boat

teams received certificates of participation neatly crafted by the Nevis Craft House.

The grand prize winners were as follows:

- Largest Wahoo - 51 pounds
- The crew of "My Baby Too" out of St.Maarten.
- Largest Dolphin - 23 pounds
- The crew of "Over The Edge" out of Antigua.
- Largest Tuna - 12 pounds
- The crew of 'Scamp' out of

St.Maarten.

- Largest Kingfish - 25 pounds
- The crew of 'Bruce T' out of Montserrat.
- Junior female Angler of the day with a 29 pounds Wahoo Kerisha Christmas of the "Black Fin" of Nevis.
- Junior male Angler of the day with a 26 pounds Wahoo - crew member of the 'Scamp' from St.Maarten.
- Champion boat of the day with an overall catch of 167.5 pounds of qualifying fish - The crew of 'Jumbi' out of



Nevis, led by Malvern 'Mali' Jeffers out of Cotton Ground, Nevis. "Mali" was gracious in victory and thanked six time winner of the tournament, Clevin Christmas for advice and assistance given.

- 1st runner up with an overall catch of 148.5 pounds of qualifying fish - 'Arawak' out of St.Kitts.
  - 2nd runner up - The crew of 'Live the Life' out of St.Kitts.
- A representative of one of the sponsors, Katchmor lures, also presented the boat team that caught the biggest catch with one of their lures, with a cash prize and some custom made lures. That top prize was presented to the crew of 'My Baby too' out of St. Maarten.

Commodore of the Nevis Yacht club, Mr. Allistair Yearwood expressed his satisfaction at the high level of participation and the competitive spirit and camaraderie demonstrated by the Fishers. He was also overwhelmed by the huge crowd support at Oualie Beach. Many of the overseas Fishers also expressed their commendations for a well run competition and were quick to indicate that they are looking forward to the next time around. After the closing exercises, there was a brief interlude from persons with Fish tales. Some of the stories seemed to have been made up on the spot but that all added to the fun. □

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## Air Caraïbes flying to France twice a week

PHILIPSBURG--Guadeloupe-based Air Caraïbes will operate a direct flight from Orly Airport in Paris to St. Maarten twice weekly as of December, Tourism Commissioner Frans Richardson revealed in Friday's Island Council meeting.

Dealing with questions about his much-criticised trip to China in September, Richardson said the meeting with partners and potential partners had yielded results, among which this new flight could be counted.

At first the Commissioner only said a flight from Paris was expected to start later in the year, but after continued questioning from former tourism commissioner Island Councilman Roy Marlin of the opposition Democratic Party, more details emerged.

The flight, with a seat capacity of about 300, will be operated by the French airline on Thursdays and Saturdays. This will add more seats coming out of Europe, an emerging tourism market for St. Maarten. Despite the economic crisis, the euro remains buoyant and travellers from Europe continue to take vacations.

This Air Caraïbes flight will offer travellers coming from Europe or heading there the possibility to compare prices with Air France and Royal Dutch Airline KLM.

Airlift into St. Maarten has been sustained during the year. While most destinations in the region have been losing flights, new flights have been added to the line-up at Princess Juliana International Airport.

JetBlue will soon begin a third direct flight between New York and St. Maarten. This airline's passenger numbers out of Boston have seen some slippage that may endanger the flight in the coming months, but JetBlue and government will be seeking ways to ensure the air link.

Starting service to St. Maarten in November as well is WestJet out of Canada. Bookings for this flight are already up to 70 per cent for the coming months, according to Richardson.

The South American market is also being looked into, with talks already ongoing between Curaçao-based InselAir and government about a direct flight from Venezuela. St. Maarten had a strong influx of South Americans in the 1980s, but numbers plummeted with economy shake-ups there and the stopping of flights.

Marketing in South America has been maintained, albeit on a smaller scale. To reap the benefits of the continued presence in South America, government is looking for flight possibilities there. □



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# GRENADA HOSTS REGIONAL BODYBUILDING CHAMPIONSHIPS

ST. GEORGE'S, GRENADA - A group of athletes visiting Grenada for a regional bodybuilding competition has been invited to return to enjoy programmes in sports, culture and tourism being developed by the National Democratic Congress government. The invitation was extended Saturday by Tourism Minister Hon. Glynis Roberts as she addressed athletes and officials attending the 37th Central American & Caribbean Bodybuilding & Fitness Championships. Participants include bodybuilders from several English-speaking countries, as well as from El Salvador, Puerto Rico, Venezuela and the Netherlands Antilles. "We expect many of you who are visiting will return to enjoy our Sports-Tourism and Cultural programmes, which the current government has been hard at work developing and enhancing," said Mrs. Roberts, who is also Member of Parliament for St. George South. The minister was speaking at the Grenada Trade Centre where other local officials included Governor-General Sir Carlyle Glean, and Sports Minister and MP for St. Andrew South-East, Hon. Patrick Simmons. She said government is highly concerned about the wellness of the Grenadian people and regards sports as a "major vehicle to living healthier, happier and more productive lives." The Tourism Minister called

for greater participation of nationals in all sports, including bodybuilding.

"I encourage local administrators and officials to organise regular mini bodybuilding events, which could culminate in larger regional championships," Minister Roberts said. "This will not only be good for the sport and for our athletes but also for tourism. The tourism impact will be tremendous." Here is the text of the minister's address:

## GREETINGS!

The Government of Grenada, through the Ministry of Tourism, is pleased to be associated with the 37th Central American & Caribbean Bodybuilding & Fitness Championship. It is indeed a pleasure to have so many of our Caribbean and Central American Brothers and Sisters – athletes and officials alike – gracing the shores of our Tri-Island Nation. I extend to you a very warm welcome on behalf of all the people of Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique.

Two brothers – Joe and Ben Weider – were the founders of the International Federation of Bodybuilders (I.F.B.B.) in 1946. Since then, membership in the I.F.B.B., and interest in bodybuilding as a serious recreational activity, have spread to many countries around the world. In the Caribbean and Latin America, for example, bodybuilding has definitely been gaining

more momentum with each passing year. For many, including some bodybuilders themselves, bodybuilding's main goal is this: having an attractive muscular physique. The final product, resulting in the sculpture of the human body, has become an art in itself; and this is the image which is at the back of some people's minds when they engage in fitness programs. But for us, the Government of Grenada, bodybuilding is more than just an exercise to achieve well-defined body contours. This Government, led by Prime Minister The Honourable Tillman Thomas, came into office just over a year ago with a vision and a recognition that sports is a major contributor to a healthy and productive society. We have an intense concern about human health and the wellness of our people, and regard sports as a key component of youth and national development.

Like I.F.B.B. co-founder Ben Weider, we see sports – whether bodybuilding, football, table tennis, cricket, basketball or track and field – as more than participating in a sporting event. It is a major vehicle to living healthier, happier and more productive lives. Therefore, those of you competing in this championship – whether you medal or not – you will leave Grenada as a winner. You will leave a winner because you have set the standard for fitness. You are motivators

for persons aspiring to be fit and this is commendable, and you should give yourselves a rousing round of applause! Grenada has been holding its own at several bodybuilding competitions over the years, including gold at Central American & Caribbean Championships. Mr. Vonne Francis must be commended for being the overall winner of the Central American & Caribbean Championships in 2007, and Mr. Damien Daniel for the overall winner of the 2009 Mr. Eastern Caribbean Championships held in Trinidad and Tobago in May of this year.

The nature of this type of championship indicates a high level of personal commitment and passion, backed by a regimen of strong self-control and discipline. The professionalism that is displayed, both by the persons participating and the countries hosting the event, has produced very positive outcomes. These include the camaraderie, fun and regular visits to one another's countries by the athletes. This augurs well for tourism, as we get to intermingle, laugh and share with our Caribbean and Central American neighbours and friends. Neighbours and friends who are also ambassadors of their countries; countries such as Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Aruba, Bahamas, Barbados, Bermuda, El Salvador, Guyana, Jamaica, Netherlands Antilles, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, Puerto Rico, Trinidad and Tobago and Venezuela. The responsibility

is on us, as Grenadian hosts, to ensure that the visiting athletes enjoy themselves and savour the best of Grenada, and delight in our usual generous hospitality.

We expect many of you who are visiting will return to enjoy our Sports-Tourism and Cultural programmes, which the current government has been hard at work developing and enhancing. We believe in the concept of "Sports for All." We also are passionate about our Grenadian cultural arts that include carnival and tradition village festivals, which are uniquely local but world class in quality.

Specifically with regard to bodybuilding, as we strive to become a more fit and healthy nation, I would like to see more persons become involved in this sporting activity. I encourage local administrators and officials to organize regular mini bodybuilding events, which could culminate in larger regional championships. This will not only be good for the sport and for our athletes but also for tourism. The tourism impact will be tremendous.

In closing, I would like to extend my appreciation to the gyms, clubs, coaches, corporate sponsors and fans who have continued to support the athletes. Your support and the athletes' performances have placed Grenada on the map as an exciting venue to host this thrilling regional tournament. Grenada is proud to be the venue for the 37th Central American & Caribbean Bodybuilding & Fitness Championship. Do enjoy!!!



## BUSINESS

## Aruba TODAY

## Stocks jump on service industry, bank reports



The Lehman Brothers booth on the trading floor of the New York Stock Exchange, is shown in this September 16, 2008 file photo.

REUTERS/Brendan McDermid/Files

By TIM PARADIS,  
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK—The first growth in the service industry in a year and upbeat comments about big banks pulled investors into the stock market after two losing weeks.

The Dow Jones industrial average rose 112 points as all major stock indicators gained 1 percent.

The Institute for Supply Management said its service index rose to 50.9 in September from 48.4 in August. Analysts polled by Thomson Reuters had expected a reading of 50, the dividing line between growth and contraction. The index hadn't grown since August of last year.

Financial and energy stocks led the gains after Goldman Sachs raised its rating on large banks and the price of oil jumped.

The advance follows the market's first back-to-back weekly drops since July, which came as reports on manufacturing and consumer sentiment fell short of expectations.

Stocks had fallen for seven of eight days, which likely brought buying interest from investors seeking bargains. The Dow lost 332 points, or 3.4 percent, in the past two weeks. Monday's advance also came in light trading volume, which can skew price moves. Bigger tests of the market will arrive in the coming weeks when

companies begin turning in earnings reports for the July-September quarter.

Thomas J. Lee, chief U.S. equity strategist at J.P. Morgan, said the improvement in the service index is encouraging because it could help boost confidence in the economy, a key element of a sustainable recovery.

"We really have to see the animal spirits kick in in the next six months, which is confidence in both businesses and consumers," he said.

The Dow rose 112.08, or 1.2 percent, to 9,599.75, its first gain in four days.

The broader Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 15.25, or 1.5 percent, to 1,040.46, and the Nasdaq composite index rose 20.04, or 1 percent, to 2,068.15.

Lee said the market's two-week drop is a healthy sign of investor caution after stocks rose for seven months off of 12-year lows in March. He also said the mixed economic readings aren't surprising and don't mean the rally is over.

"We should be kind of looking for data to come in a little choppy because no recovery is going to be linear and smooth," he said.

A disappointing employment report Friday, which followed a string of other lackluster economic data, shook investors' confidence. The Labor Department said employers cut more jobs in

September than in August, while economists had expected that cuts would decrease.

Investors could begin to get a better sense of the economy Wednesday when quarterly earnings reports start arriving. Aluminum maker and Dow component Alcoa Inc. kicks off earnings season, and investors will be looking for signs of growth to ease recent concerns about the strength of a rebound.

Adam Gould, senior portfolio manager at Direxion Funds in New York, said investors don't want to be out of the market if corporate earnings reports come in better than forecast for the third quarter as they did for the first and second quarters.

Stocks fell 7 percent from mid-June to mid-July before companies posted earnings

that topped analysts' forecasts. By Friday, the Dow had slid 3.5 percent from its recent closing high on Sept. 22.

Gould said stocks are unlikely to post massive gains before the end of the year because professionals who have ridden the surge since March 9 don't expect the gains can continue at such a pace. Others who missed the rally are going to be hesitant to get in now.

"I see people being relatively conservative between now and the end of the year. If you missed the rally you missed it," Gould said. "It's hard to buy stocks 45 percent off the lows."

Companies were able to mostly beat modest profit expectations in the second quarter primarily because of cost-cutting, including job cuts. Now traders will be

looking for signs of growth in revenue to sustain improved earnings.

Financial stocks jumped after the Goldman upgrade. Wells Fargo & Co. rose \$1.81, or 6.9 percent, to \$28.09, while Bank of America Corp. rose 62 cents, or 3.8 percent, to \$16.96.

Crude oil rose 46 cents to settle at \$70.41 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange as the dollar weakened. Commodities are priced in dollars, and a weak greenback makes them more appealing to foreign buyers. That lifted shares of energy and materials companies.

Bond prices mostly fell, pushing up yields. The yield on the benchmark 10-year Treasury note rose to 3.23 percent from 3.22 percent late Friday. □

## BofA to select emergency CEO this week: report

By IEVA M. AUGSTUMS,

AP Business Writer

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Bank of America Corp. plans to select an emergency CEO this week in case Ken Lewis steps down before the end of the year, The Wall Street Journal reported Monday. Last week, the bank said Lewis plans to retire Dec. 31. Bank of America's board has created a six-member committee of directors to find Lewis' successor.

But the planning for an emergency replacement for Lewis, who faces possible legal problems over the bank's acquisition of Merrill Lynch & Co., started before the bank announced Lewis' retirement, the Journal reported, citing a person familiar with the matter.

The board's contingency plan picked up momentum last month after a federal judge rejected a proposed settlement between the Securities and Exchange Commission and the bank, coupled with reports that New York Attorney General Andrew Cuomo may file civil securities fraud charges against Lewis, according to the Journal story. Bank of America spokesman Robert Stickler declined to comment on the report, but said, "the nominating committee is starting its work in earnest, has a number of meetings scheduled this week and we are going forward with finding the process of finding a new CEO." Last week, it was reported that Bank of America could be considering naming an interim CEO who would stay for about two

years, according to a Journal report Thursday that cited anonymous sources. Stickler at that time responded to that report saying, "nothing is off the table" in terms of potential hiring options, leaving open the possibility the bank could hire someone on a short-term basis. The idea of finding an emergency CEO to replace Lewis has some analysts questioning whether there would be additional developments with Cuomo's investigation. "It makes you wonder if something is about to happen," said Aite Group bank analyst Alois Pirker, who asked, "how would the market take it?" if Lewis does step down sooner. In the event the CEO does leave before a clear succession plan is announced, a possible candidate to replace him is Brian Moynihan, Pirker said. Moynihan became the head of the company's largest division, consumer and small business banking, in August during a shake-up of the bank's personnel.

At that time, former Citigroup Inc. CFO Sallie Krawcheck was hired to run BofA's investment operations. She would also be able to step up if needed, Pirker said.

There is no consensus among analysts and investors about who might succeed Lewis.

Bank of America's stock, like those of other financial institutions, has been pummeled since the Charlotte, N.C.-based bank announced its deal to acquire Merrill Lynch in September 2008. □



# Bahamas jurors see secret tape at Travolta trial

By JUAN McCARTNEY, Associated Press Writer  
NASSAU, Bahamas — A jury on Monday watched a hidden-camera videotape of negotiations between a lawyer for John Travolta and a former Bahamas senator accused of trying to blackmail the movie star.

The tape shows politician Pleasant Bridgewater telling Travolta's lawyer that a paramedic who treated the actor's son wants at least \$20 million as payment to not release a private document to the media.

Bridgewater and ambulance driver Tarino Lightbourne have pleaded not guilty to extortion charges at the trial that began Sept. 21.

Lightbourne came to Travolta's vacation home on Grand Bahama island when the actor's 16-year-old son Jett suffered a seizure on Jan. 2. He later allegedly threatened to make public a release that Travolta signed to have Jett taken directly to the airport, even though the youth ultimately died at a local hospital and the document never came into play.

Bahamas police set up hidden cameras at a hotel room to capture Bridgewater's meeting on Jan. 19 with Travolta attorney Michael McDermott.

During the meeting, Bridgewater calls Lightbourne on his cell phone and tells him the lawyer is prepared to offer \$250,000. She then tells the attorney that Lightbourne responded by telling her: "My mortgage is more than that."

"It's obvious that you can't handle this deal. I can't do it for \$250,000. Just tell me when I can come and get my document from you," Bridgewater quotes

U.S. actor John Travolta, right, and his wife Kelly Preston leave the court building in Nassau, Bahamas, Wednesday, Sept. 30, 2009. Travolta testified Wednesday that Bahamas paramedic Tarino Lightbourne, who is now on trial for extortion, threatened to sell stories to the news media suggesting the movie star was at fault in the death of his 16-year-old son, demanding \$25 million.

(AP Photo/Hendricks McIntosh)



Lightbourne as saying. Prosecutors say the two defendants agreed to accept

\$10 million in installments over a four-year period before they were arrested. □



**FILE -** In this July 8, 2006 file photo, Cuban singer Omara Portuondo performs at the 40th Montreux Jazz Festival in Montreux, Switzerland. Buena Vista Social Club sultry-voiced diva Omara Portuondo has been granted permission to visit the U.S. for the first time since 2003 and hopes a dose of her sensuous sound can inspire policy-makers in both countries to improve relations that have been ice-cold for nearly 50 years. Portuondo will perform at the San Francisco Jazz Festival on Oct. 20, 2009 and give a concert three days later at the UCLA campus.

(AP Photo/Keystone, Sandro Campardo, File)

## "Zombieland" top destination at U.S. box office

LOS ANGELES (Reuters) — Woody Harrelson scored the biggest opening of his career at the North American box office, as "Zombieland" stormed theaters with weekend ticket sales of \$25 million, according to studio estimates issued on Sunday.

The comedy ended the two-week reign of children's comedy "Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs," which slipped to No. 2 with \$16.7 million. Both films were released by Columbia Pictures, a unit of Sony Corp.

Four other new releases entered the top-10. A 3-D reissue of the Pixar cartoons, "Toy Story" and "Toy Story 2," opened at No. 3 with \$12.5 million. The release was designed to stoke anticipation of the June 2010 arrival of "Toy Story 3."

British comedian Ricky Gervais' "The Invention of Lying" followed with a modest \$7.4 million, slightly ahead of Bruce Willis' "Surrogates," which is in its second weekend. Rankings could change when final data are released on Monday.

Two entries tied at No. 7: Drew Barrymore's directing debut, "Whip It," and documentary

filmmaker Michael Moore's "Capitalism: A Love Story" each reported about \$4.9 million in ticket sales.

"Capitalism" played in about one-half as many theaters as "Whip It," which had been expected to open in the high-single-digit millions ahead of the Gervais comedy.

"Zombieland," bolstered by strong reviews and advance buzz, matched its modest production budget.

Harrelson, who rose to fame in the sitcom "Cheers," stars as a gung-ho zombie killer who joins an obsessive-compulsive nerd, played by Jesse Eisenberg, during a worldwide zombie epidemic. It marks the debut of director Ruben Fleischer. "It's an action-driven road-trip buddy comedy, and the icing on the cake is that it's got zombies in it," said Rory Bruer, Columbia's president of worldwide distribution.

Harrelson has kept a low profile at the box office in recent years, living in Hawaii with his wife and daughters and advocating for the legalization of marijuana. His best opening until now was the \$18 million debut of "Indecent Proposal" in 1993. □

## Buena Vista diva goes to US for 1st time since '03

By ANDREA RODRIGUEZ, Associated Press Writer

HAVANA—Omara Portuondo, the sultry-voiced diva of the Buena Vista Social Club, has been granted permission to visit the U.S. for the first time since 2003 and hopes a dose of her sensuous sound can inspire both countries to improve frozen relations.

The U.S. Treasury Department has granted Portuondo, who turns 79 this month, permission to perform at the San Francisco Jazz Festival on Oct. 20 and give a concert three days later at the University of California, Los Angeles. "Cuban music is the best medicine," Portuondo said in a recent interview.

"It's good to be able to share culture, which is the soul of a people." Her career spans six decades. But Portuondo had fallen into obscurity until American guitarist and producer Ry Cooder brought her and other aging Cubans musicians together in the 1990s and "Buena Vista Social Club" made them international stars. The singer and dancer has visited the United States dozens of times. But the Bush administration tightened visa rules in 2003, making it tougher for Cuban musicians, artists and academics to travel there. Portuondo's latest visit coincides with the U.S. release of her album "Gracias," which has been nominated for a Latin Grammy in the category of best contemporary tropical album. Portuondo would not say if she will seek permission

to attend the awards ceremony next month in Las Vegas.

Portuondo played in San Francisco as part of a Buena Vista Social Club U.S. tour that began in November 1999. This time, she will be coming with her own band, which includes noted Cuban pianist Harold Lopez Nusa.

"We are going to present this record which has been nominated for a Latin Grammy and is called 'Gracias,'" she said. "On it, I'm doing just that, giving thanks to so many people from so many parts of the world, and other musicians, who have supported my career for 60 years." Among those appearing on the album are Cuban jazz legend Chucho Valdes and Rocio Jimenez, Portuondo's granddaughter, who was just 8 when the album was recorded. □

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tributed on five (5) floors. The one, two and three bedroom suites have a perfect view of the ocean and beach. The units include, among other amenities, floor to ceiling glass doors and panoramic windows, spacious terraces, marble bathrooms, European kitchens

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U.S. Marine radio operator and infantryman Lance Cpl. Walter Jennings of Normal, Ill. with Bravo Company, 1st Battalion 5th Marines walks in front of an armored vehicle, in Nawa district, Helmand province, southern Afghanistan, Monday, Oct. 5, 2009.

*Associated Press*

# White House says no Afghanistan pullout

ANNE GEARAN  
LARA JAKES

Associated Press Writers

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama will not walk away from the flagging war in Afghanistan, the White House declared Monday as Obama faced tough decisions — and intense administration debate — over choices that could help define his presidency in his first year as commander in chief. The fierce Taliban attack that killed eight American soldiers over the weekend added to the pressure. The assault overwhelmed a remote U.S. outpost where American forces have been stretched thin in battling insurgents, underscoring an appeal from Obama's top Afghanistan commander for as many as 40,000 additional forces — and at the same time reminding the nation of the costs of war. Obama's defense secretary, Robert Gates, appealed for calm — and for time for the president to come to a decision. Obama may take weeks to decide whether to add more troops, but the idea of pulling out isn't on the table as a way to deal with a war nearing its ninth year, White House press secretary Robert Gibbs said. "I don't think we have the option to leave.

That's quite clear," Gibbs said.

The question of whether to further escalate the conflict after adding 21,000 U.S. troops earlier this year is a major decision facing Obama and senior administration policy advisers this week.

Obama also invited a bipartisan group of congressional leaders to the White House on Tuesday to confer about the war. And Obama will meet twice this week with his top national security advisers.

Divided on Afghanistan, Congress takes up a massive defense spending bill this week even before the president settles on a direction for the war.

Defense Secretary Gates said Monday that Obama needs elbow room to make strategy decisions about the war and appealed for calm as the internal Obama White House debate goes increasingly public.

"It is important that we take our time to do all we can to get this right," Gates said at an Army conference. "In this process, it is imperative that all of us taking part in these deliberations — civilians and military alike — provide our best advice to the president candidly but privately."

*Continued on Next Page*

## 3 Americans share 2009 Nobel medicine prize



Elizabeth Blackburn gestures during a news conference outside of her office in San Francisco Monday, Oct. 5, 2009. Sweden's Karolinska institute gave the 2009 Nobel Prize in medicine to Americans Elizabeth Blackburn, Carol Greider and Jack Szostak. The institute says the trio was awarded 'for the discovery of how chromosomes are protected by telomeres and the enzyme telomerase.

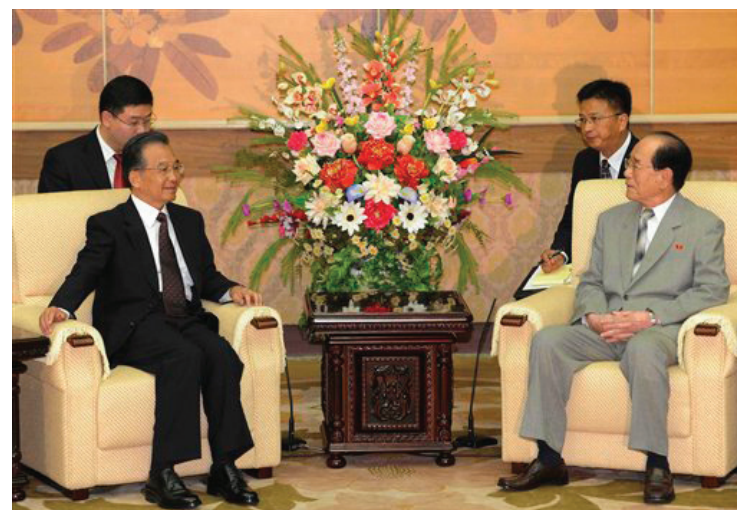
*Associated Press*

KARL RITTER  
MATT MOORE

Associated Press Writers

STOCKHOLM (AP) — Americans Elizabeth H. Blackburn, Carol W. Greider and Jack W. Szostak won the 2009 Nobel Prize in medicine on Monday for discovering a key mechanism in the genetic operations of cells, an insight that has inspired new lines of research into cancer.

*Continued on Page B3*



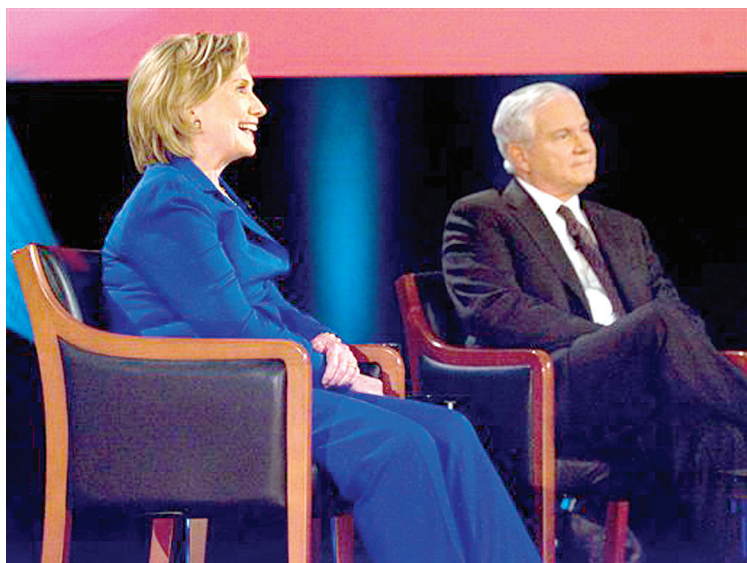
In this photo released by the official Xinhua news agency, Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao, left, meets with North Korea's deputy leader Kim Yong Nam, in Pyongyang, capital of North Korea, on Monday Oct. 5, 2009.

*Associated Press*

## North Korea considers return to nuclear talks

*Read Page B6*





Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, left, and Secretary of Defense Robert M. Gates, listen to George Washington University School of Media and Public Affairs Director Frank Sesno, and CNN Chief International Correspondent Christiane Amanpour, before an interview at George Washington University, Monday, Oct. 5, 2009, in Washington.

Associated Press

#### PULLOUT

Continued from Page B1

Gates has not said whether he supports the recommendation of the top commander in Afghanistan to expand the

number of U.S. forces by as much as nearly 60 percent. He is holding that request in his desk drawer while Obama sorts through competing recommendations and theories

from some of his most trusted advisers.

"I believe that the decisions that the president will make for the next stage of the Afghanistan campaign will be among the most important of his presidency," Gates said.

In trying to blunt the impression that the White House and military are at odds, Gates did not name names. But his remarks came days after top Afghan commander Gen. Stanley McChrystal bluntly warned in London that Afghan insurgents are gathering strength. Any plan that falls short of stabilizing Afghanistan "is probably a shortsighted strategy," the general said.

On Sunday, Obama's national security adviser, retired Gen. James Jones, offered a mild rebuke of McChrystal for his London speech.

It is "better for military advice to come up through the chain

of command," said Jones.

At issue is whether U.S. forces should continue to focus on fighting the Taliban and securing the Afghan population, or shift to more narrowly targeting al-Qaida terrorists believed to be hiding in Pakistan with unmanned spy drones and covert operations. Gates and some other advisers appear to favor a middle path. A hybrid strategy could preserve the essential outline of an Afghan counterinsurgency campaign that McChrystal rebuilt this summer from the disarray of nearly eight years of undermanned combat, while expanding the hunt for al-Qaida next door.

"Speaking for the Department of Defense, once the commander in chief makes his decisions, we will salute and execute those decisions faithfully and to the best of our ability," Gates told the annual meeting of the Association of

the U.S. Army.

The top three U.S. military officials overseeing the war in Afghanistan favor continuing the current fight against the Taliban, and have concluded they need tens of thousands more U.S. troops beyond the 68,000 already there.

Officials across the Obama administration have acknowledged that the Taliban is far stronger now than in recent years, as underscored by the U.S. deaths in Nuristan province.

The fighting Saturday marked the biggest loss of U.S. life in a single Afghan battle in more than a year. It also raised questions about why U.S. troops remained in the remote outposts after McChrystal said he planned to close down isolated strongholds and focus on more heavily populated areas as part of his new strategy to focus on protecting Afghan civilians. □

## DDT deposit off Southern California will be capped

JOHN ANTCHAK,

Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Clean sand and silt will be used to cover a vast deposit of the pesticide DDT and toxic compound PCB on the ocean floor off Southern California, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency said Monday.

The \$50 million plan will target a Superfund site lurking in the waters off the scenic Palos Verdes Peninsula in order to reduce concentrations of the chemicals in fish in that area.

About 110 tons of DDT from a manufacturer and 10 tons of PCBs from industrial operations flowed for years through the Los Angeles County sewer system into the ocean and accumulated in a nine-mile swath. Now, an existing thin layer of silt over

the contaminants is showing signs of erosion.

Keith Takata, the EPA's Superfund director for the region, said the cap will be placed over the most contaminated sediment on what's known as the Palos Verdes Shelf.

The government will also continue programs aimed at educating the public not to eat contaminated fish.

EPA project manager Carmen White said the actual capping won't happen until 2012, after the best method for placing the sand is determined. The new material can't simply be dropped from the surface because that would stir up the contaminated sediment and spread it. Rather, it must be released close to the bottom, White said.

White said 800,000 cubic yards of clean sand are

available from a Los Angeles harbor deepening project and sand could also be transferred from uncontaminated areas of the shelf.

The contaminated sediment cannot be dredged up because that would release some of it into the environment, she said. Using a suction system would require treatment of huge volumes of water as well as the contaminated sediment, which would take years, she said.

The DDT was released from 1947 to 1971 by manufacturer Montrose Chemical Corp. into sewers that flowed into the Pacific.

Widely used until its environmental impacts were recognized, DDT was banned in 1972.

PCBs, short for polychlorinated biphenyl, were used in a wide range of products and



U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Lisa P. Jackson speaks during a news conference following her keynote speech at the second Governors' Global Climate Summit in Los Angeles, Wednesday, Sept. 30, 2009.

Associated Press

materials including electrical equipment, oils, insulation, adhesives, plastics and floor finish, according to the EPA. PCBs were manufactured in the U.S. from 1929 until they were banned in 1979.

The now-defunct Montrose

Chemical, other chemical companies, the county sanitation district and others eventually settled lawsuits by the state and federal governments. The settlements set aside \$136 million to address the contamination. □

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# Weather aids defense of California mountain town

WRIGHTWOOD, California (AP) — Firefighters made progress Monday against a wildfire near a Southern California mountain town as weather turned calm and cool. Evacuation orders remained in effect for several thousand residents of the Wrightwood area but there was little flame visible in the burn area covering 7,500 acres (3,035 hectares), or 12 square miles (31 square kilometers), on the east end of the San Gabriel Mountains about 40 miles (65 kilometers) northeast of downtown Los Angeles. "It's mostly smoldering," said U.S.

Forest Service spokeswoman Robin Prince. Winds were about 6 mph (9.6 kph), down from 50 mph (80 kph) over the weekend, and temperatures were cool. Containment remained at 20 percent but the fire was not expected to jump its existing perimeter unless significant new winds developed, Prince said. Nearby schools were closed Monday. Most residents appeared to have heeded warnings to leave. Three homes had been destroyed in remote canyons but none in Wrightwood. Wrightwood, which sits at an elevation of 6,000 feet

(1,830 meters) and has many year-round residents, draws daytrippers to quaint eateries and is a popular kickoff point for hiking and skiing. Houses sit in rustic settings among towering pines. The fire erupted Saturday afternoon near the community of Lytle Creek amid strong winds, and the cause remained under investigation. In Arizona, authorities lifted an evacuation order Monday morning for 64 homes that had been threatened by a wildfire near the scenic city of Williams, about 120 miles (190 kilometers) north of Phoenix. □



The remains of houses burned in Sheep fire is seen, Sunday, Oct. 4, 2009 in San Bernardino, Calif.. Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger declared a state of emergency for San Bernardino County, freeing up state resources to battle the fire.

*Associated Press*

## NOBEL PRIZE

*Continued from Page B1*

It was the first time two women have been among the winners of the medicine prize.

The trio solved the mystery of how chromosomes, the rod-like structures that carry DNA, protect themselves from degrading when cells divide.

The Nobel citation said the laureates found the solution in the ends of the chromosomes — features called telomeres that are often compared to the plastic tips at the end of shoe laces that keep those laces from unraveling. Blackburn and Greider discovered the enzyme that builds telomeres — telomerase — and the mechanism by which it adds DNA to the tips of chromosomes to replace genetic material that has eroded away.

The prize-winners' work, done in the late 1970s and 1980s, set the stage for research suggesting that cancer cells use telomerase to sustain their uncontrolled growth. Scientists are studying whether drugs that block the enzyme can fight the disease. In addition, scientists believe that the DNA erosion the enzyme repairs might play a role in some illnesses.

"The discoveries by Blackburn, Greider and Szostak have added a new dimension to our understanding of the cell, shed light on disease mechanisms, and stimulated the development of potential new therapies," the prize committee said in its citation.

Blackburn, who holds U.S. and Australian citizenship, is a professor of biology and physiology at the University of California, San Francisco. Greider is a professor in the department of molecular biology and genetics at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in Baltimore.

Greider, 48, said she was telephoned just before 5 a.m. her time with the news that she had won.

"It's really very thrilling, it's something you

can't expect," she told The Associated Press by telephone.

People might make predictions of who might win, but one never expects it, she said, adding that "It's like the Monty Python sketch, 'Nobody expects the Spanish Inquisition!'"

Greider described the research as beginning with experiments aimed at understanding how cells work, not with the idea for certain implications for medicine.

"Funding for that kind of curiosity-driven science is really important," she said, adding that disease-oriented research isn't the only way to reach the answer, but "both together are synergistic," she said.

Blackburn, 60, said she was awakened at 2 a.m.

"Prizes are always a nice thing," she told The AP. "It doesn't change the research per se, of course, but it's lovely to have the recognition and share it with Carol Greider and Jack Szostak."

London-born Szostak, 56, has been at Harvard Medical School since 1979 and is currently professor of genetics. He is also affiliated with the Howard Hughes Medical Institute.

"There's always some small chance that something like this might happen, so when the phone rang, I thought maybe this is it, so, sure enough," Szostak told the AP.

He said winning the prize was made sweeter because it also included Blackburn and Greider. "When we started the work, of course, we were really just interested in the very basic question about DNA replication, how the ends of chromosomes are maintained," he said. "At the time we had no idea there would be all these later implications."

He said that since then it had become apparent that "this process of maintaining the ends of DNA molecules is very important and plays an important role in cancer and in aging, which are really still being fully worked out." □



Carol W. Greider, a professor in the department of molecular biology and genetics at Baltimore's Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine talks with the media after a news conference in Baltimore, Monday, Oct. 5, 2009. Greider, along with two other Americans, won the 2009 Nobel Prize in medicine on Monday for discovering a key mechanism in the genetic operations of cells, an insight that has inspired new lines of research into cancer.

*Associated Press*

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## U.S. to brief senator on toxic school drinking water

GARANCE BURKE

Associated Press Writer

FRESNO, California (AP)

— A U.S. senator called on the head of the Environmental Protection Agency on Monday to disclose how the agency plans to address the widespread problem of toxic drinking water in schools.

Democratic Sen. Barbara Boxer wrote the agency in response to an Associated Press investigation showing water supplies at thousands of U.S. schools have been found to contain unsafe levels of lead, pesticides and dozens of other toxics.

Contaminants have surfaced at public and private schools in all 50 states, and in small towns and inner cities alike over the last decade. But the AP found the problem has gone largely unmonitored by the federal government, even as the number of water safety violations has multiplied.

Boxer, who chairs the Senate committee that oversees the EPA, said she took action out of “deep concern” that polluted water supplies could be harming school children as their young bodies are developing. “The EPA is responsible for overseeing the safety of our nation’s drinking water systems,” Boxer wrote in a letter sent Monday to EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson. “I am sure that you recognize the importance of acting quickly to address any report of pollution in the water our children drink.”

An EPA spokeswoman had no immediate comment.

The AP’s analysis focused on schools with wells, the 8 to 11 percent of U.S. schools for which the EPA collects drinking water quality data.

In the past, EPA officials have said that schools with unsafe water represent only a small percentage of the nation’s 132,500 public and private schools. They also have said the agency lacks the authority to require that all schools test their water, and can only provide guidance on environmental practices. □

# Supreme Court begins new term with new justice

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court is beginning its new term with a new look. When the top U.S. court convenes Monday, Justice Sonia Sotomayor, the first Hispanic justice, will join the eight others.

She replaces Justice David Souter, who retired. But this won’t be her first time behind the court’s bench. Sotomayor joined the court in time to hear a special oral argument last month over campaign finance regulations.

The featured argument on the court’s first day will be over how long a suspect’s request for a lawyer should remain valid. Other high profile cases come later in the year — including arguments over strict local and state gun control laws.

The justices will hear arguments until the end of April and issue decisions until the end of June. □



In this Sept. 29, 2009 file photo, the Supreme Court poses for a portrait at the Supreme Court in Washington. Seated, from left are: Associate Justice Anthony M. Kennedy, Associate Justice John Paul Stevens, Chief Justice John G. Roberts, Associate Justice Antonin Scalia, and Associate Justice Clarence Thomas. Standing, from left are: Associate Justice Samuel Alito Jr., Associate Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Associate Justice Stephen Breyer, and Associate Justice Sonia Sotomayor.

Associated Press

## Top officials stress police cooperation

P. SOLOMON BANDA

Associated Press Writer

DENVER (AP) — U.S. Attorney Eric Holder, FBI Director Robert Mueller and Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano on Monday stressed the importance of cooperation between federal and local law enforcement agencies to stop terrorism.

They say the recent arrest of an imam in New York, and the arrest of Najibullah Zazi and his father in Colorado, illustrate the point.

“Working together in a multi-agency, coordinated investigation, we disrupted what we believe was a plot to kill scores of Americans by detonating explosives here in the homeland,” Holder said in a speech to thousands of chiefs of police gathered for the International Association of Chiefs of Police. “Every law enforcement official in America has a role to play in the fight against terrorism.”

Mueller said many threats continue to come from the tribal areas of Pakistan and Afghanistan, Algeria, Somalia and Yemen.

“And we are increasingly concerned about pockets of people around the world that identify with al-Qaida and its ideology, including those who may be living here in the United States,” Mueller said.

Napolitano says information that beauty supplies can be used to make bombs is being shared between law enforcement through



Department of Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano addresses the International Association of Chiefs of Police Conference in Denver on Monday, Oct. 5, 2009.

Associated Press

72 so-called “fusion centers” across the country, which collect and share information about potential terrorist activity.

“All of us now are very familiar with and are paying attention to and indeed are working with our private sector on how to coordinate, and find those kind of purchases before a bomb can be made or a bomb can go off,” Napolitano said of the beauty supplies.

Later after touring an exhibit in downtown Denver meant to educate the public about terrorism and learn ways to prevent it, Napolitano said the public can also help by reporting suspicious behavior to police.

That behavior can include people taking pictures of surveillance cameras at secure buildings or stockpiling items such as fertilizer or stolen uniforms. □



# One in custody after gunman reported on S. Florida campus

CHRISTINE ARMARIO

Associated Press Writer

TAMPA, Florida (AP) — The University of South Florida was locked down for a time Monday after someone reported a man with a gun and a bomb near the library, and police had one person in custody.

No one reported shots being fired or injuries. Students were told to return to their normal routine about three hours later.

Vincent Thomas-Perry McCoy, 23, a USF student, was arrested and charged with making a false report. The Tampa Police Department's

bomb squad examined his backpack and determined it was safe, police said. He had no weapons on him and was cooperative, USF Police Lt. Meg Ross said.

McCoy was being held on \$7,500 bond. He did not yet have an attorney.

A second person who was



University of South Florida Police take a suspect into custody, Tampa, Fla., Monday, Oct. 5, 2009. The university was locked down for a time Monday after someone reported a man with a gun and a bomb near the library.

Associated Press

## Sources: Family tried to sell snatched baby

KRISTIN M. HALL

TRAVIS LOLLER

Associated Press Writer

NASHVILLE, Tennessee (AP) — A Tennessee newborn kidnapped in a knife attack on his mother was placed in foster care with his three siblings after allegations arose that a family member tried to sell the infant, sources familiar with the case said Monday.

Week-old Yair Anthony Carillo was recovered safely in Alabama on Friday, three days after he was taken from his Nashville home. Soon after, the state took custody of the children away from his mother, 30-year-old Maria Gurrolla. An Alabama woman is in custody, facing federal kidnapping charges.

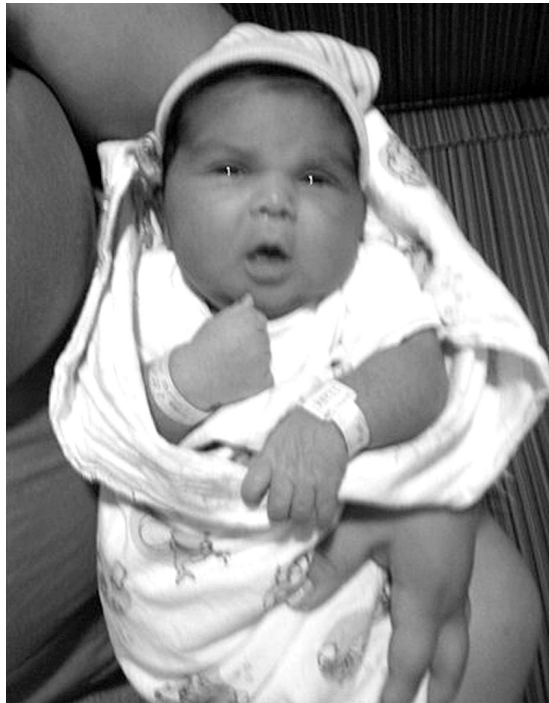
Two officials confirmed the baby-selling allegations but spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because they weren't authorized to discuss the case.

A custody hearing is set for Tuesday, but records are closed because the case is in juvenile court. Rob Johnson, a spokesman for the Department of Children's Services, and spokesmen for the FBI and Nashville police declined to comment on the baby-selling reports.

Gurrolla and other family members could not be reached at her home on Monday, and it wasn't clear if they were being represented by a lawyer.

Tammy Renee Silas, 39, of Ardmore, Alabama, is being held on federal charges of kidnapping. She has given a statement to investigators, according to Tennessee Bureau of Investigation spokeswoman Kristin Helm, who declined to detail what Silas said. A lawyer for Silas couldn't be identified Monday.

She was arrested after authorities found

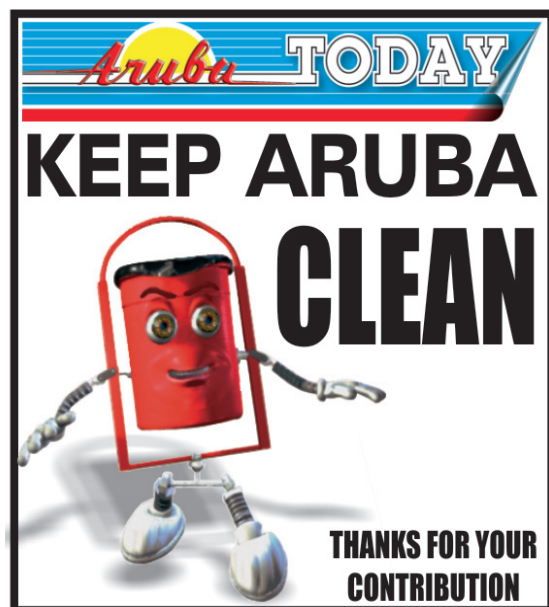


This photo provided by the Nashville Police Department shows Yair Anthony Carillo of Nashville, Tenn. The baby's mother, Maria Gurrolla, said her newborn son was taken from her home Tuesday by a woman who stabbed Gurrolla multiple times when Gurrolla answered the door. Gurrolla said the woman claimed to be an immigration agent.

Associated Press

the baby at her home about 80 miles south of Nashville.

Silas has not been charged in the attack on Gurrolla, who was stabbed several times and suffered a collapsed lung. Gurrolla told police that her attacker was a heavy-set, blonde white woman who claimed to be an immigration agent. □



reportedly carrying a knife on campus was detained, but police said they believe it was unrelated.

The first call came in at 1:36 p.m. to the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office, which transferred it to campus police.

A siren interrupted classes. An announcement over a loud speaker said there was an intruder and students should stay inside and lock their doors, said Amanda Barnes, an 18-year-old international studies major.

Administrators also sent several text messages to

students.

"A lot of people were like, 'OK. I'm going to go up to my room, and no big deal,'" Barnes told The Associated Press. "A couple of people were like, 'Oh my God. I'm so scared.'"

At about 3:30 p.m., police also reported a man wearing a black tank top and cowboy hat, carrying a black puppy and a large hunting knife on campus.

Ross said the man was being questioned, but it didn't seem related to the earlier report of a man carrying a gun and a bomb. □

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# North Korea considers return to nuclear talks



In this photo released by the official Xinhua news agency, Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao, right, shakes hands with Kim Jong Il, top leader of North Korea, during a meeting in Pyongyang, capital of North Korea, on Monday Oct. 5, 2009.

Associated Press

PYONGYANG, North Korea (AP) — North Korean leader Kim Jong Il told China's premier on Monday that the North was prepared to return to multination disarmament talks depending on progress in its two-way negotiations with the U.S. Kim's comments, carried by official North Korean and Chinese media, were the clearest sign yet that Pyongyang was readying to resume the six-nation talks it withdrew from after conducting missile tests in April and a second nuclear test in May.

In their meeting late Monday, Kim said that North Korea "is willing to attend multilateral talks, including the six-party talks, depending on the progress in its talks with the United States," China's Xinhua News Agency said in a report issued early Tuesday.

The North's Korean Central News Agency carried nearly identical comments. In the KCNA report, Kim told Wen that denuclearization remained a goal and that historically hostile relations with the U.S. "should be converted into peaceful ties through bilateral talks without fail."

North Korea has been moderating its tone in recent weeks, signaling its willingness to resume a dialogue with the U.S., China and other partners and backing away from the provocative behavior and rhetoric of the spring.

State Department spokesman Ian Kelly said Washington was aware of reports that North Korea would reconsider opening talks but said the United States had not yet gotten details of the meeting from the Chinese.

"We've talked to our Chinese partners in the six-party talks and we're conducting close coordination with China and the other partners in the talks," Kelly said. "We, of course, encourage any kind of dialogue that would help us lead to our ultimate goal that's shared by all the partners in the six-party talks, which, is the complete and verifiable denuclearization of the Korean peninsula."

Kim's remarks to Wen came on the second day of the Chinese premier's three-day trip to Pyongyang to celebrate the 60th anniversary of diplomatic relations between the neighbors.

Both countries' communist leaderships traded congratulatory messages Monday extolling what the Chinese called their "good neighborly, friendly and cooperative

relations."

Beyond the niceties, Wen's visit is seen as an inducement to Pyongyang to return to the disarmament talks, which China sponsored and which include Japan, Russia and South Korea as well as the U.S. and North Korea. The cautious Chinese leadership is unlikely to have agreed to Wen's trip without assurances about resumed talks.

As the No. 3 leader in China's Communist Party hierarchy, Wen was accorded unusual high-level attention, having been greeted at the airport by Kim on Sunday and having attended mass games together Monday night, according to footage from AP Television News in Pyongyang.

Kim reportedly made similar remarks — that North Korea's return to the six-party talks hinged on progress with the U.S. — to a Chinese envoy sent last month to Pyongyang to prepare for Wen's visit.

As North Korea's chief diplomatic and economic backer, Beijing was under pressure from other governments to bring North Korea back to the table.

South Korea has taken a hard-line and on Monday urged China anew to exert pressure, including applying U.N. sanctions Beijing signed on to in May.

"I think China should lead North Korea to decide to give up its nuclear program by faithfully implementing" the sanctions, South Korean Foreign Minister Yu Myung-hwan told a parliament committee meeting.

China is North Korea's biggest trade partner and economic patron, providing much of the food assistance and all the oil needed to keep the listing North Korean economy going. The isolated nation gives Beijing a buffer state in Northeast Asia. While relations were close following the 1950-53 Korean War — during which the Chinese fought with the North against the U.S. — the two sides have drifted apart in recent decades, as China embraced free-market reforms and North Korea remained a defiantly closed, totalitarian state.

Despite strains, Beijing rarely threatens North Korea publicly, preferring to offer support to encourage Pyongyang to engage outwardly. Wen was expected to oversee the signing of several agreements on his trip. On Sunday, the two sides agreed to build a new bridge over the Yalu River, which forms part of their border, the official Korean Central News Agency reported. □



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	matinee: 1:00	3:30	late show: 11:00	
<b>R</b>	<b>MANAGEMENT</b>	daily: 7:00	9:15	
	matinee:		late show: 11:30	
<b>R</b>	<b>JENNIFER'S BODY</b>	daily: 5:30	7:45	10:00
	matinee: 1:00	3:15	late show: 12:15	
<b>PG</b>	<b>FAME</b>	daily: 4:00	6:15	8:45
	matinee: 1:30		late show: 11:15	
<b>R</b>	<b>FINAL DESTINATION 4</b>	daily: 8:00	10:00	
	matinee:		late show: 12:00	
<b>PG</b>	<b>SUSKE &amp; WISKE</b>	daily: 5:00		<b>NEW</b>
	matinee: 12:45	3:00	late show:	
<b>R</b>	<b>WHITEOUT</b>	daily: 5:15	7:30	9:45
	matinee: 12:45	3:00	late show: 12:00	
<b>PG</b>	<b>CLOUDY WITH A CHANCE OF MEATBALLS</b>	daily: 4:00	6:00	
	matinee: 12:00	2:00	late show:	

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	matinee: 12:00	2:00	late show: 12:00			
<b>PG-13</b>	<b>SURROGATES</b>	daily: 6:30	8:45			<b>NEW</b>
	matinee: 1:15	3:45	late show: 11:45			
<b>R</b>	<b>JENNIFER'S BODY</b>	daily: 4:45	7:00	9:15		
	matinee: 12:15	2:30	late show: 11:30			
<b>PG-13</b>	<b>TYLER PERRY'S I CAN DO BAD ALL BY MYSELF</b>	daily: 8:30				
	matinee:		late show: 11:15			
<b>PG</b>	<b>CLOUDY WITH A CHANCE OF MEATBALLS</b>	daily: 4:15	6:15			
	matinee: 12:15	2:15	late show:			
<b>PG-13</b>	<b>G.I. JOE: THE RISE OF THE COBRA</b>	daily: 6:00	7:15			
	matinee: 12:30	3:30	late show:			
<b>R</b>	<b>FINAL DESTINATION 4</b>	daily: 8:15	10:00			
	matinee:		late show: 11:45			
<b>R</b>	<b>WHITEOUT</b>	daily: 5:15	7:30	9:45		
	matinee: 12:45	3:00	late show: 12:00			

Matinee: sat - wed | Late show: fri & sat



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# Bathroom break a ploy for Pakistan suicide attack

CHRIS BRUMMITT

Associated Press Writer

ISLAMABAD (AP) — A suicide bomber who killed five staffers at the U.N. food agency's headquarters in Pakistan on Monday was dressed as a security officer and allowed to enter the heavily guarded building after he asked to use the bathroom. The United Nations announced it was temporarily closing all its offices in Pakistan after the noontime bombing, which blew out windows and left victims lying in pools of blood in the lobby of the three-story World Food Program compound.

"This is a heinous crime committed against those who have been working tirelessly to assist the poor and vulnerable on the front lines of hunger and other human suffering in Pakistan," U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said in Geneva.

Despite the office closures, the U.N. said its Pakistani partner organizations would continue distributing food, medicine and other humanitarian assistance. The world body said it would reassess the situation over the next several days.

Pakistani authorities launched an investigation into the major security lapse, saying they would question guards who failed to stop the bomber from carrying out the first suicide attack in Islamabad in four months.

The attack came a day after the new Pakistani Taliban leader met reporters close to the Afghan border, vowing more attacks in response to U.S. missile strikes on militant targets in Pakistan. Ending speculation he had been killed, Hakimullah Mehsud denied government claims the militants were in disarray and said his fighters would repel any army offensive on their stronghold in South Waziristan.

Authorities blamed Islamic militants for Monday's bombing but did not single out the Taliban.

It was unclear whether militants targeted the World Food Program because of its work in Pakistan or were simply looking to kill

foreigners or those working with them. The dead were four Pakistanis and an Iraqi.

Extremists in Pakistan, Afghanistan and Iraq seeking to attack high-profile Western targets have shown no hesitation in striking foreign humanitarian agencies, including the United Nations, regardless of the work they are doing in relieving the suffering in the countries. A blast in June on a luxury hotel housing many foreign aid workers in the northwestern city of Peshawar killed two U.N. staffers and wounded others.

Sometimes the very nature of their work invites attack. In Monday's bombing, insurgents may have believed that by feeding refugees from the fighting in the Swat valley, the World Food Program is propping up a Pakistani government they view as a U.S. puppet or somehow supporting the army offensive there.

The U.N. and various humanitarian agencies, including those funded by the U.S. government, have been expanding in Pakistan over the last year to help support its elected government.

The United Nations considers itself a major target in Pakistan. Many of its offices are surrounded by 12-foot blast walls. Its staff members are driven in bulletproof cars and not allowed to bring their families with them on assignment in the country.

The World Food Program compound, which employs more than 70 people, is surrounded by square metal cages filled with sand and small stones used to protect against blasts and projectiles.

"This was one of the best-protected U.N. centers in all of Pakistan," U.N. spokeswoman Michele Montas told reporters at the world body's headquarters in New York. "We were really quite heavily guarded at least at that compound. How that person got in — that is still being investigated, and we're trying to find out from surveillance cameras."

Asked whether security had been bolstered following last



Pakistani police commandos stand guard at the main entry gate of U.N. food agency's office after a suicide bombing in Islamabad, Pakistan on Monday, Oct. 5, 2009. A suicide bomber disguised as a security officer struck the lobby of the U.N. food agency's Pakistan headquarters Monday, a day after the new leader of the Pakistani Taliban vowed fresh assaults, authorities and witnesses said.

Associated Press

month's attack that killed 12 African U.N. peacekeepers in a U.N.-authorized mission in Somalia, Montas replied: "Not that I know of."

Taliban and allied militants have carried out scores of suicide attacks in Pakistan over the last 2½ years. Under U.S. pressure, Pakistani security forces have recently had some success combatting the extremists. Hakimullah's predecessor, Baitullah Mehsud, was killed in a U.S. drone strike in August.

Monday's bombing was one of at least four major strikes in the past three weeks that would appear to show Pakistani militants are regrouping and

have retained the capacity to carry out attacks. It took place in a well guarded, upscale residential area close to where President Asif Ali Zardari has a home.

Police official Bin Yamin said the attacker detonated his explosives in the lobby. Typically, visitors to U.N. buildings in Islamabad are screened and patted down for weapons and explosives in secure chambers some distance from the entrance to the building. It was unclear whether the attacker went through that process.

Security camera footage broadcast on local TV shows the bomber walking through

a door into what appears to be the main building carrying a 2-foot cylindrical object — possibly a detonator — in one hand. Seconds later, a bright flash fills the screen.

"There was a huge bang, and something hit me. I fell on the floor bleeding," said Adam Motiwala, an information officer who was hospitalized with wounds to his head, leg and ribs.

Medical officials at two hospitals said five staff members were killed, including two Pakistani women, two Pakistani men and an Iraqi. Several others were wounded, two of them critically, the WFP said in a statement. □



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# Honduran leaders revoke rights-limiting decree



US Congresswoman Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, a Florida Republican, right, holds a copy of Honduras' constitution during a press conference with Honduras' interim President Roberto Micheletti at the presidential house in Tegucigalpa, Monday, Oct. 5, 2009. Ros-Lehtinen traveled to Honduras with two other Florida Republicans as part of a fact-finding trip and are among US lawmakers who oppose Zelaya in large part because he is supported by Venezuela's President Hugo Chavez. Honduras' President Manuel Zelaya was ousted in a military coup in June.

**BEN FOX**

**Associated Press Writer**

TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras (AP) — The interim Honduran government on Monday revoked an emergency decree that prohibited large street protests and limited other civil liberties following the return of ousted Honduran President Manuel Zelaya.

The decree, which resulted in dozens of arrests and the closing of two pro-Zelaya media outlets, "has been completely revoked," Interim President Roberto Micheletti said at a news conference

with U.S. Congresswoman Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, a Florida Republican.

Micheletti did not say whether the lifting of the decree would take effect immediately. He had said in a morning television interview it would be formally repealed Tuesday when the new order is published in the government's official gazette. Honduras' interim leaders issued the emergency order Sept. 27 in response to "calls for insurrection" by Zelaya as the ousted president sought refuge in the Brazilian Embassy after sneaking back

into the country. He remains holed up in the embassy with dozens of supporters amid international diplomatic efforts to end the crisis.

The decree empowered police and soldiers to break up public meetings, arrest people without warrants and restrict the news media, with armed troops stationed throughout the capital to enforce the order.

It drew criticism even from judges and congressional leaders who backed Zelaya's ouster in a June 28 military-backed coup that was

condemned by much of the rest of the world, including the U.S. government and the United Nations. Many complained the decree would disrupt campaigning for the November presidential election they hope will resolve the country's crisis.

Human rights groups have complained of unjustified arrests and the persecution of peaceful protesters, but Micheletti defended the measure to reporters as a legitimate response to an organized campaign against the government "led" by Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez.

"We've never seen scenes of burning buses and burning businesses like what has happened in recent days," he said, adding that the decision to impose the decree was "because we learned that they were planning more of this type of conduct and we weren't going to allow it."

The main effect of the order was to close down the two main pro-Zelaya media outlets, Radio Globo and Channel 36, and it blocked protest marches for several days. Zelaya supporters eventually ventured out to demonstrate, but in much smaller numbers than before.

While the decree was in force, the government also retook control of a government Agrarian Institute building that had been occupied by

protesters. They detained about 55 people and lodged sedition charges against 38, who were still in custody over the weekend.

Police spokesman Orlin Cerrato said about 1,000 people were detained for violating a curfew that was imposed before the decree.

Radio Globo has been broadcasting over the Internet. The station's owner, Alejandro Villatoro, said authorities seized his station's equipment and he did not know when it would be able to resume normal operations.

Asked if the stations could now broadcast, Micheletti said they "will have to come to the courts to recover their right to be on the air."

Zelaya was forced from office with the backing of the Honduran Congress and Supreme Court for trying to hold a referendum on rewriting the constitution. His opponents charged he wanted to lift the charter's provision limiting presidents to a single term — an accusation he denies.

With the backing of much of the international community, including the U.S. government, Zelaya is seeking to be reinstated to serve out his term, which ends in January. The U.S. has suspended millions of dollars in aid to Honduras, and its ambassador has refused to meet with Micheletti, in hopes of pressuring the interim government to relinquish power.

The Organization of American States, local representatives of the Catholic Church and others have been meeting with the competing factions, seeking to negotiate an end to the standoff. But the two sides remain divided over key issues, including whether Zelaya can reassume the presidency before scheduled Nov. 29 elections.

In the television interview, Micheletti indicated he was open to Zelaya's reinstatement after the elections. But he also insisted his rival could not be president while charged with abuse of power and other so-called political crimes — and suggested the matter was out of his hands. □

## Costa Rican court: Ex-president embezzled funds



Former Costa Rica's President Rafael Angel Calderon, center, who was president from 1990 to 1994, speaks to reporters at the end of his trial in San Jose, Monday, Oct. 5, 2009. A Costa Rican court found Calderon guilty of embezzlement and sentenced him to five years in prison.

*Associated Press*

**MARIANELA JIMENEZ,**

**Associated Press Writer**

SAN JOSE, Costa Rica (AP) — A former Costa Rican president was convicted and sentenced to five years in prison Monday for embezzling funds from a Finnish loan intended for medical equipment for public hospitals.

Rafael Calderon, who was president from 1990-1994, was accused of receiving \$520,000 from a 2004 Finnish government loan to Costa Rica's social security system. He still faces separate corruption charges.

The 60-year-old politician said he would appeal the court decision but is reconsidering a 2010 run for president. He has returned the money and says he received it as payment for consulting work. "I'm in great shock," Calderon said. "All we have lost here is a battle but we will continue fighting."

Reading the verdict on national television, Judge Teresita Rodriguez said there was no proof Calderon did consulting work.

Prosecutors alleged that about \$8 million of the \$40 million loan, which was meant to buy medical equipment, was split among eight officials and political figures, including Calderon. □



# Group condemns Guinea shootings, Madagascar coup

CELEAN JACOBSON  
Associated Press Writer

JOHANNESBURG (AP)

— The Sudanese billionaire behind a lucrative prize to promote leadership in Africa on Monday condemned the killing of pro-democracy protesters in Guinea.

Mo Ibrahim was speaking at the launch of his foundation's 2009 Index of African Governance, which tracks development on the continent. He said the shooting of 157 people by troops in "cold blood" at a rally in Guinea last week was unacceptable.

Ibrahim also called for African leaders to "stand firm" against those who seize power and then try to legitimize their rule by holding elections.

Capt. Moussa "Dadis" Camara seized control of Guinea in December 2008. Elections are to be held in the West African country in January 2010. Camara initially said he would not run but recently indicated that he may have changed his mind.

Ibrahim also referred to Madagascar, where a military-backed politician toppled an elected president in March and is also promising elections.

Guinea is placed 44th out of 53 countries in the index while Madagascar ranks 13th. The index does not reflect the effect of this year's coups in both countries.

For the first time, the index now covers all 53 African countries. It was launched in 2007 and the ranking is based on a number of indicators including security, crime, corruption, health and education.

The 2009 index is based on latest available data, which is mainly from last year and has a margin of error of 6 points. Ibrahim acknowledged that data collection in Africa was inadequate and that statistical offices need to be strengthened. He also said the 2009 index

does not reflect the effect of the global financial crisis.

Southern Africa ranked as the continent's best-performing region thanks to stable democracies such as South Africa, Botswana and Mozambique. Five of Africa's 10 best performing countries are southern African nations. North Africa is second, West Africa is ranked third followed by East Africa while Central Africa is the worst performing.

"The rest of Africa — where coups are taking place — should look at southern Africa and see how these guys are getting their act together," Ibrahim said in a telephone news conference from Cape Town, where the index was launched.

He attributed southern Africa's success to strong democratic institutions, and that the protection of human rights and the rule of law prevails in these countries.

Mauritius remains the best-run country according to the index. Somalia, which has not had an effective central government since 1991, retains its bottom ranking.

Chief researcher Hania Farhan praised the Indian Ocean island nation of Mauritius for "enlightened policy, free and fair elections and a very adaptive government."

Farhan said Liberia continues to see the greatest improvement while Zimbabwe and Eritrea show the strongest decline.

Benefits of Zimbabwe's unity government formed in February, may only be seen next year, she said.

South Africa, the country's economic powerhouse, was ranked 5th. The country, which will host Africa's first football (soccer) World Cup next year, scored high for safety and rule of law but was in the bottom 10 when it came to personal security. Crime is pervasive in South Africa, which has

one of the highest murder and rape rates in the world.

Farhan was cautiously optimistically about the outlook for Africa, saying the data showed an overall slow "trend of improvement." But, performances by the top 10 countries were "substantially and significantly" better than the other countries where data was less reliable.

Ibrahim also awards an annual \$5 million prize to an outstanding African leader, which will be announced on Oct. 19. □



Guinea's opposition leader and former prime minister Sidya Toure speaks on his mobile phone outside his home in the city of Conakry, Guinea, Thursday, Oct. 1, 2009. Guinea's military leader banned all gatherings and demonstrations Wednesday, as the United Nations pressed for an independent investigation into why troops opened fire on 50,000 pro-democracy protesters. Toure appealed Thursday for outside help to hold elections after troops loyal to the military leader fired at protesters earlier this week.

Associated Press

## Farmers create chaos with spilled milk in Brussels



A business man runs from a cow during a demonstration in front of EU headquarters in Brussels, Monday Oct. 5, 2009. Hundreds of dairy farmers drove tractors into the center of Belgium's capital Monday to push EU farm ministers for more funding to survive the milk price crisis. Thousands of farmers across the 27-nation bloc are facing a financial crunch because of collapsed milk prices and are seeking more EU help and quotas to artificially drive them up.

RAF CASERT

Associated Press Writer

BRUSSELS (AP) — Farmers drove hundreds of tractors and a lone cow to the heart of the European Union bureaucracy on Monday, pelting police with bottles and chickens and dumping milk and manure onto the streets of Brussels in a protest against collapsing milk prices.

Over 2,500 farmers from across the EU burned tires and hay outside an emergency meeting of farm ministers.

Associated Press

They sprayed milk from huge canisters, and the cow's udder, on a square close to the meeting. The jittery cow was frightened by firecrackers, sprang loose and chased an office worker down the street before it was recaptured by the farmers.

The farmers used heavy tractors to block major highways into Brussels and streets in the urban center, creating traffic chaos for dozens of miles outside the city for much of the day, keeping tens of thousands

of commuters moving at a snail's pace.

Farmers' demonstrations have often been violent in the past and there was a massive police presence that further choked roads throughout the capital. Officers prevented the farmers from getting too close to the meeting and there was no major violence.

The farmers' major demand — limiting production through quotas to drive up prices — met with no success. EU officials said they still intend to gradually create freer markets for European farm products.

"There will be no backtracking," said EU Farm Commissioner Mariann Fischer Boel.

Farmers want regulation to shield them from market fluctuations and have been protesting for weeks, arguing production costs are currently up to twice as high as market prices.

They have dumped tens of millions of gallons (liters) of milk into streets and fields to highlight their plight.

"If there is no change by this winter, I will have to stop milking," said Belgian farmer Richard Patrice. "Every day I lose money. It is as if every morning I wake up and I burn a 50 euro (\$73) bill." □

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# SPORTS

## Aruba TODAY

### NFL Roundup

# Big defense propels undefeated Saints past Jets

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Darren Sharper returned one of his two interceptions of Mark Sanchez 99 yards for a score and Will Smith forced a fumble in the end zone to produce a second defensive touchdown as New Orleans handed the New York Jets their first loss of the season. New York went down 24-10 despite stopping the Saints twice on fourth-and-short and holding Drew Brees to 190 yards passing and no touchdowns. New Orleans' normally high-powered offense, which entered the game ranked first in the NFL, did not score a touchdown until Pierre Thomas barreled in from a yard out with 6:07 left, but that was enough. In his first loss as a pro, Sanchez completed 14 of 27 passes for 138 yards, which still might have been enough if not for his four turnovers.

### Sharper image



New Orleans Saints linebacker Scott Shanle (58) signals touchdown as safety Darren Sharper heads to the endzone with an interception against the New York Jets in an NFL football game in New Orleans, Sunday, Oct. 4, 2009. New York Jets running back Tony Richardson (49) gives chase.

Associated Press

### Broncos 17, Cowboys 10

At Denver, Champ Bailey knocked away a potential tying touchdown pass from Tony Romo to Sam Hurd with one second left, giving the Broncos their first 4-0 start since 2003.

The Broncos took the lead on Brandon Marshall's 51-yard touchdown catch with 1:46 remaining.

### Steelers 38, Chargers 28

At Pittsburgh, Ben Roethlisberger threw touchdown passes on fast-starting Pittsburgh's first two drives, Rashard Mendenhall surpassed his previous career total with 165 yards rushing and two scores and the Steelers opened a 28-point lead, then held on.

Jeff Reed finished it off with a 46-yard field goal in the final minute.

### 49ers 35, Rams 0

Continued on Page B12

## Safina, Venus Williams ousted from China Open

CHRISTOPHER BODEEN

Associated Press Writer

BEIJING (AP) — World No. 1 Dinara Safina was beaten 7-5, 7-6 (5) by local wild card entrant Zhang Shuai in the China Open second round on Monday, a shock defeat that could lead to the Russian's top ranking passing to No. 2 Serena Williams.

In other drama, Venus Williams fell to Russian teenager Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova, whose 3-6, 6-1, 6-4 victory was her second over the American in a week, while Novak Djokovic fired 10 aces in a 6-3, 7-5 win over Romania's Victor Hanesu to advance to the second round.

Having lost the first set to the 20-year-old Zhang, Safina found herself 5-4 behind in the second. She battled back to force the tiebreak, but with the crowd and momentum behind the local player, Zhang held firm to take the match.

According to the points reckoning, Safina would lose her No. 1 ranking to Serena Williams if she finished behind the American, who won her first round match Saturday against Estonia's Kaia Kanepi and next faces Russian Ekaterina Makarova on Tuesday. Safina can hold on to the top ranking if Serena loses.

The latest defeat comes a week after Safina was knocked out of the second round of the Toray Pan Pacific Open by 18-year-old qualifier Chang Kai-chen from Taiwan.

"I'm just having some bad losses right now. So many matches that are very close, ones that I should win, having set points or



Russia's Dinara Safina reacts after losing a point during her match against Zhang Shuai of China at the 2nd round of the China Open Tennis Tournament in Beijing, China, Monday, Oct. 5, 2009. Zhang defeated Safina 7-5, 7-6.

Associated Press

match points every time," Safina said in a post-match statement. "It's very disappointing. I would like to take some break now, and I'm very upset with myself."

Zhang, ranked 226th in the world, said close losses in the past to high-ranking players gave her confidence that she could win at their level.

"I woke up this morning feeling really excited, but didn't do any special preparation and never expected to win the match," she said. □

## Ochoa wins Navistar LPGA Classic

JOHN ZENOR

AP Sports Writer

PRATTVILLE, Alabama (AP) — Lorena Ochoa successfully defended her Navistar LPGA Classic title, overcoming early troubles to shoot a 2-under 70 on Sunday for a four-stroke victory over Michelle Wie and Brittany Lang.

Ochoa finished at 18-under 270 on The Senator course at the Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail's Capitol Hill complex to snap an 11-start winless streak dating to the Corona Championship in late April. The top-ranked Mexican star has three victories this year and 27 overall on the LPGA Tour. "There are places where you feel comfortable and you feel a good vibe and you like the course," Ochoa said. □





On Top Of The News

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Tuesday, October 6, 2009



U.S. Marine radio operator and infantryman Lance Cpl. Walter Jennings of Normal, Ill. with Bravo Company, 1st Battalion 5th Marines walks in front of an armored vehicle, in Nawa district, Helmand province, southern Afghanistan, Monday, Oct. 5, 2009.

*Associated Press*

# White House says no Afghanistan pullout

ANNE GEARAN  
LARA JAKES

Associated Press Writers

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama will not walk away from the flagging war in Afghanistan, the White House declared Monday as Obama faced tough decisions — and intense administration debate — over choices that could help define his presidency in his first year as commander in chief. The fierce Taliban attack that killed eight American soldiers over the weekend added to the pressure. The assault overwhelmed a remote U.S. outpost where American forces have been stretched thin in battling insurgents, underscoring an appeal from Obama's top Afghanistan commander for as many as 40,000 additional forces — and at the same time reminding the nation of the costs of war. Obama's defense secretary, Robert Gates, appealed for calm — and for time for the president to come to a decision. Obama may take weeks to decide whether to add more troops, but the idea of pulling out isn't on the table as a way to deal with a war nearing its ninth year, White House press secretary Robert Gibbs said.

"I don't think we have the option to leave.

That's quite clear," Gibbs said.

The question of whether to further escalate the conflict after adding 21,000 U.S. troops earlier this year is a major decision facing Obama and senior administration policy advisers this week.

Obama also invited a bipartisan group of congressional leaders to the White House on Tuesday to confer about the war. And Obama will meet twice this week with his top national security advisers.

Divided on Afghanistan, Congress takes up a massive defense spending bill this week even before the president settles on a direction for the war.

Defense Secretary Gates said Monday that Obama needs elbow room to make strategy decisions about the war and appealed for calm as the internal Obama White House debate goes increasingly public.

"It is important that we take our time to do all we can to get this right," Gates said at an Army conference. "In this process, it is imperative that all of us taking part in these deliberations — civilians and military alike — provide our best advice to the president candidly but privately."

*Continued on Next Page*

## 3 Americans share 2009 Nobel medicine prize



Elizabeth Blackburn gestures during a news conference outside of her office in San Francisco Monday, Oct. 5, 2009. Sweden's Karolinska institute gave the 2009 Nobel Prize in medicine to Americans Elizabeth Blackburn, Carol Greider and Jack Szostak. The institute says the trio was awarded 'for the discovery of how chromosomes are protected by telomeres and the enzyme telomerase.

*Associated Press*

KARL RITTER  
MATT MOORE

Associated Press Writers

STOCKHOLM (AP) — Americans Elizabeth H. Blackburn, Carol W. Greider and Jack W. Szostak won the 2009 Nobel Prize in medicine on Monday for discovering a key mechanism in the genetic operations of cells, an insight that has inspired new lines of research into cancer.

*Continued on Page B3*



In this photo released by the official Xinhua news agency, Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao, left, meets with North Korea's deputy leader Kim Yong Nam, in Pyongyang, capital of North Korea, on Monday Oct. 5, 2009.

*Associated Press*

## North Korea considers return to nuclear talks

*Read Page B6*





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**NFL ROUNDUP**

*Continued from Page B10*

At San Francisco, Tight end Vernon Davis caught a 13-yard pass for his third touchdown in two weeks and Patrick Willis returned an interception 23 yards for a score as the 49ers overcame the absence of star running back Frank Gore.

The 49ers scored in every way to take command of the NFC West after already beating reigning division champion Arizona and Seattle, recording their first shutout in 119 games since Jan. 6, 2002, 38-0 at New Orleans.

The Rams lost their 14th straight, the longest skid in the NFL.

**Dolphins 38, Bills 10**

At Miami, with quarterback Chad Henne making his first NFL start, the Dolphins controlled the ball for 37 minutes and earned their first victory after three straight losses to open the season.

Henne, a second-year pro, shook off six sacks and managed the game well in his first start replacing Chad Pennington, sidelined by a season-ending shoulder injury.

**Patriots 27, Ravens 21**

At Foxborough, Massachusetts, Tom Brady and Randy Moss hooked up for their first touchdown pass of the season and Baltimore



**Cincinnati Bengals kicker Shayne Graham kicks a 31-yard field goal with four seconds remaining in overtime to defeat the Cleveland Browns 23-20 Sunday, Oct. 4, 2009 in Cleveland, Ohio.**

*Associated Press*

failed on fourth-down plays on its last two series.

Moss' touchdown made it 24-14 late in the third quarter, but Joe Flacco's 13-yard pass to Willis McGahee cut that to 24-21. Stephen Gostkowski's 33-yard field goal gave the Patriots (3-1) a six-point lead midway through the fourth quarter.

**Bengals 23, Browns 20, OT**

At Cleveland, Shayne Graham won it on the last play over

time with a 31-yard field goal, set up by Carson Palmer's 15-yard run on fourth down, — on the last play of overtime won it.

Not wanting to settle for a tie, Bengals coach Marvin Lewis gambled on fourth-and-11 from the Cleveland 41 with 1:04 remaining. Palmer dropped back to pass and then tucked it away and scampered up the middle for the first down. Cincinnati ran two plays to get Graham in position, and the kicker, who had an extra point and field goal blocked, drilled it through the uprights.

**Jaguars 37, Titans 17**

At Jacksonville, Florida, David Garrard threw for 323 yards and three touchdowns, two to Mike Sims-Walker, as the Jaguars dismantled Tennessee.

**Colts 34, Seahawks 17**

At Indianapolis, Peyton Manning led the Colts to touchdowns on four of their first five drives, tied milestones established by Fran Tarkenton and Dan Marino and extended Indianapolis' regular-season victory streak to 13.

Manning finished 31 of 41 for 353 yards, marking the first time in 12 NFL seasons he has topped 300 yards in four consecutive games.

It not only gave the Colts (4-0) a 21-3 halftime lead but also gave Manning a share of third place on the NFL's

career touchdowns passing list. Only Dan Marino (420) and Brett Favre (469) have thrown more.

**Giants 27, Chiefs 16**

At Kansas City, Eli Manning threw for 292 yards and three touchdowns and the Giants remained unbeaten.

Kansas City is winless this season and has lost 27 of its last 29 games.

From the first quarter, when Jamaal Charles fumbled the opening kickoff and Manning converted it into a quick TD.

**Bears 48, Lions 24**

At Chicago, Jay Cutler threw two touchdown passes and ran for another score as the Bears pulled away in the second half a week after Detroit snapped its 19-game losing streak.

The Lions were celebrating a win over Washington that snapped a slide that matched the second longest in league history.

**Redskins 16, Buccaneers 13**

At Landover, Jason Campbell made up for a pair of first-half interceptions with two second-half touchdowns, and the Redskins scored on three straight possessions for the first time this season.

Trailing 10-0, the Redskins started their rally when DeAngelo Hall intercepted a pass from second-year quarterback Josh Johnson, making his first NFL start. Washington converted the turnover into a field goal, but Campbell hit Chris Cooley for a 17-yard touchdown and Santana Moss for a 59-yard score on the next two series.

**Texans 29, Raiders 6**

At Houston, Steve Slaton scored two touchdowns, Jacoby Jones returned a kickoff for a score and the Texans (2-2) finally found their running game.

**Sunday's NFL scores:**

**Chicago 48, Detroit 24; Houston 29, Oakland 6; Washington 16, Tampa Bay 13; Indianapolis 34, Seattle 17; N.Y. Giants 27, Kansas City 16; New England 27, Baltimore 21; Cincinnati 23, Cleveland 20, OT; Jacksonville 37, Tennessee 17; Miami 38, Buffalo 10; New Orleans 24, N.Y. Jets 10; Denver 17, Dallas 10; San Francisco 35, St. Louis 0; and Pittsburgh 38, San Diego 28. □**

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# Lula invita a los empresarios belgas a invertir en Brasil

BRUSELAS (AFP) - El presidente brasileño, Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, invitó este lunes a los empresarios belgas a invertir en su país, que presentó como un modelo de buena gobernanza, dotado de un crecimiento positivo y de un potencial enorme con la organización de los Juegos Olímpicos en 2016.

“La crisis económica sólo será una pequeña ola para Brasil, aunque un poco mayor de lo que pensaba”, afirmó Lula durante un seminario empresarial en Bruselas celebrado con motivo del segundo y último día de la visita del mandatario a Bélgica, invitado por el rey Alberto II.

Una misión de inversores belgas prevé viajar a Brasil en mayo de 2010, encabezada por el príncipe Felipe, heredero del trono.

“Brasil es sólido. Este año tendremos un crecimiento positivo y un enorme potencial de oportunidades con la organización del Mundial de fútbol de 2014, los Juegos Olímpicos de 2016, el tren de alta velocidad y las exploraciones

petroleras en alta mar”, subrayó el presidente. Lula se refirió igualmente a los proyectos brasileños de producción de biocarburantes, “una tecnología segura, limpia y eficaz”, y se presentó como un líder que asume sus responsabilidades frente al cambio climático, con un programa de reforestación de más de 300.000 hectáreas en la Amazonia.

Junto al mandatario brasileño, el ministro de Relaciones Exteriores belga, Yves Leterme, subrayó el peso de las relaciones comerciales entre ambos países. “Bélgica importó en 2008 un total de 2.900 millones de euros en bienes procedentes de Brasil y nuestras exportaciones representaron 1.900 millones de euros”, explicó Leterme, lamentando empero “la débil presencia de compañías brasileñas en el reino”.

Al término del seminario, Lula tenía previsto viajar a Estocolmo, donde el martes participará en la tercera cumbre entre la Unión Europea y Brasil. □

## Reunión entre Ecuador y Colombia contará con la presencia del Secretario General de la OEA

Bogotá - La presencia de José Miguel Insulza fue confirmada por el canciller de Ecuador, Fander Falconí.

El diplomático se reunirá con su homólogo colombiano, Jaime Bermúdez, el próximo viernes para continuar el proceso de restablecimiento de las relaciones diplomáticas entre los dos países.

“Hemos hablado también con Insulza y él va a estar presente el viernes en la reunión”, señaló Falconí en una rueda de prensa.

Según explicó, el secretario de la Organización de Estados Americanos (OEA) llegará a Quito el jueves por la noche desde Honduras, donde encabezará una comisión de cancilleres americanos, en la que también participará Falconí, que visitarán el país

centroamericano para intentar destrabar la crisis política.

Ecuador y Colombia mantienen rotas sus relaciones diplomáticas desde marzo de 2008, después del bombardeo colombiano a un campamento de las Farc en territorio ecuatoriano.

A finales de septiembre, tras varios encuentros bilaterales en Nueva York en el marco de los debates de la 64 Asamblea General de la ONU, Bermúdez y Falconí anunciaron que iniciarán a partir de octubre un diálogo “directo” para intentar recomponer las relaciones.

En esas reuniones en Nueva York, los ministros suscribieron un acuerdo por el que ambos gobiernos se comprometían a designar antes de que finalice octubre a un encargado de negocios que

centralice las gestiones para solucionar la crisis política.

Pese a que en anteriores ocasiones Falconí dijo que el encuentro del viernes se celebraría en la localidad colombiana de Rumichaca, ayer señaló que aún no se ha fijado un sitio concreto para la reunión, pero resaltó que será en territorio de Colombia, cerca de la frontera con Ecuador.

En esa reunión ambos ministros prevén poner a funcionar las tres mesas de trabajo establecidas para el proceso de “diálogo directo”: una sobre seguridad y crimen organizado, otra vinculada a la frontera y una tercera enfocada a “temas sensibles” en los que ambos países todavía no han llegado a consensos. □

## Piedad Córdoba es una ‘candidata probable’ para ganar el viernes el Nobel de Paz

Oslo - La senadora colombiana está entre los principales contendores de este año por el galardón, indicó el Instituto de Investigaciones de Paz de Oslo.

Córdoba, de 54 años, “es la candidata más probable” dijo Kristian Berg Harpviken, director del instituto que cada año lista a los potenciales ganadores. “Ella ha logrado abrirse un espacio independiente en un conflicto cuya solución ha sido largamente postergada”, agregó.

Junto al de Córdoba, Berg sugirió el nombre de la activista afgana Sima Samar. Dijo que ambas

son “mujeres reconocidas como promotoras de los derechos humanos en zonas de conflicto”. Samar, graduada en medicina, creó Shuhada, un grupo que provee atención en salud a mujeres afganas. Tras más de diez años en el exilio, regresó a su país en el 2002 para asumir un puesto en el gabinete transicional de Hamid Karzai, pero renunció debido a amenazas de muerte. En la historia ha habido 12 mujeres y 84 hombres galardonados con el premio. Este año hay una cifra récord de 205 nominados para el premio 10 millones de coronas (US\$1,4 millones). □



El presidente brasileño, Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, pronuncia un discurso ante empresarios belgas, el 5 de octubre de 2009 en un foro en Bruselas. Foto:John Thys/AFP

## Presidente Morales promete más mujeres en Gobierno boliviano

LA PAZ (Reuters) - El presidente de Bolivia, Evo Morales, se lanzó el lunes a la conquista de votos femeninos para apuntalar su eventual reelección en diciembre, prometiendo que la mitad de sus próximos ministros serían mujeres.

Centenares de mujeres en la ciudad oriental de Santa Cruz recibieron la promesa de Morales en un festivo encuentro que contrastó con una casi silenciosa apertura de campañas de la dividida oposición conservadora, golpeada por encuestas que proyectan un amplio triunfo del oficialismo el 6 de diciembre.

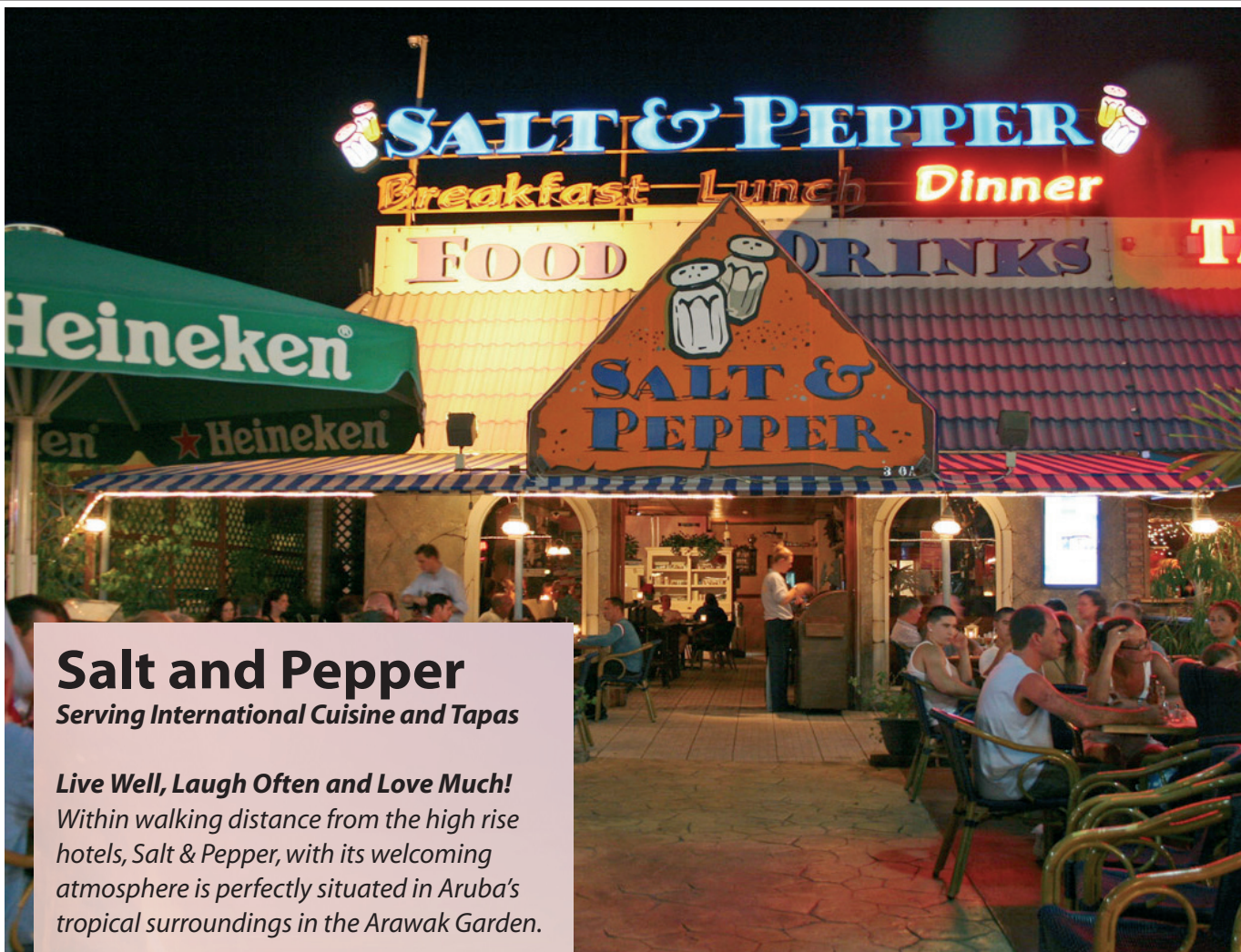
“Mi próximo sueño en tema de equidad, en tema de participación de mujeres, es que el 50 por ciento sean mujeres en el gabinete. Esperamos llegar a eso”, dijo el indígena Morales en un discurso transmitido por la televisión estatal.

“Necesitamos muchas, miles de mujeres para que sean electas, pero también para que sean designadas a prestar un servicio, un trabajo por el pueblo boliviano”, agregó al destacar la sensibilidad y honestidad que pueden aportar a su “revolución” pluricultural y socialista.

En el actual gabinete ministerial de 20 miembros hay cinco mujeres, la mayor participación femenina en ese órgano de poder en la historia democrática boliviana, y Morales pidió a las líderes reunidas en la ciudad oriental que le ayuden a ampliar el número de mujeres en el Gobierno.

La ex presidenta de la Asamblea Constituyente, la campesina Silvia Lazarte, y la ex Defensora del Pueblo, la periodista Ana María Romero, encabezan listas regionales de candidatos oficialistas a la próxima Asamblea Plurinacional, como pasará a llamarse el Congreso después de diciembre. □





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